OSAMU TEZUKA

BIG X



VOL. 3


TESSOLATIONS
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BIG X

VOL 3

BIG X (III)

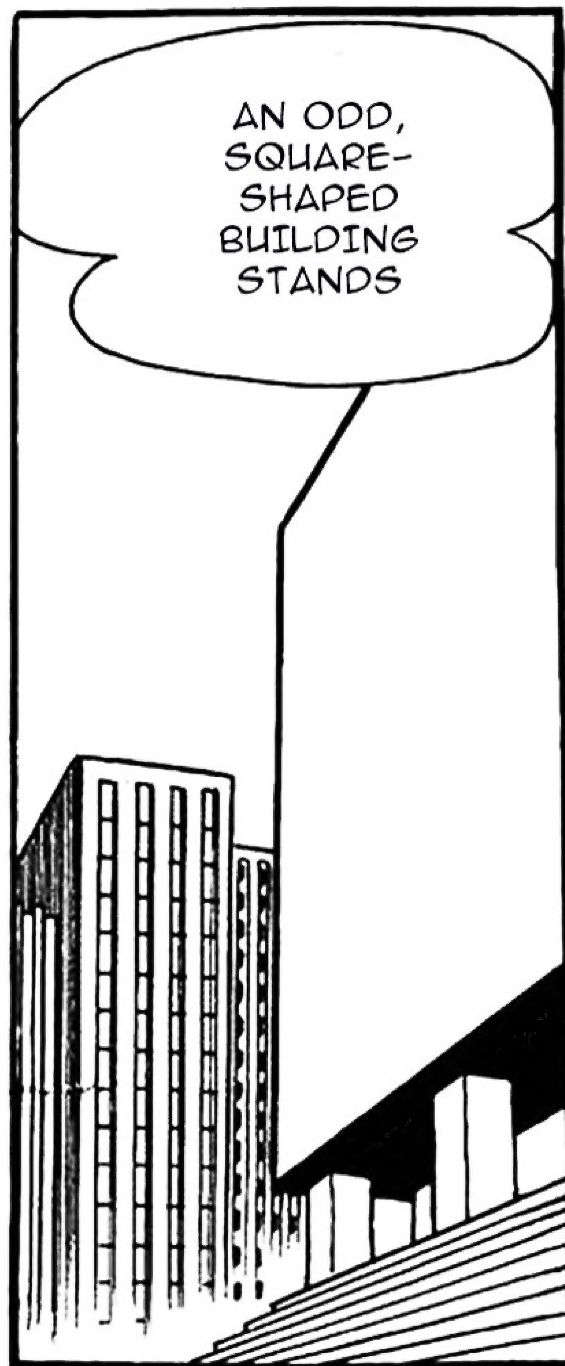
Because Dr. MacKeller of the Southeast Asian chapter of the Cross Party injects the liquid Big X into animals in experiments, the liquid is soon used up. Akira returns to Japan with Nina and completes Big X from the formula left by his father. Dr. MacKeller and Hans, who had become a member of the Cross Party arrive in Japan in search of Big X. But Hans is killed. Prof. Hanamaru feels sorry for Hans and changes the latter into a cyborg. The Cross Party was planning to induce war between the U.S. and the Soviet Union in which hydrogen bombs were sure to be used. It also planned to escape in a rocket into space and return to earth after atomic radiaton had settled down and then conquer the whole world. Silver, who was planning to become the president of the U.S. was also a member of the Cross Party. Akira learns of Silver's plan and goes to Cape Barbella in the U.S. where hydrogen missiles are stored, and destroys the base. The party uses V-3s to attack Akira but he repulses all of them. He beguiles the leader of the party to meet him and Akira finds out that the leader was none other than Hitler's shadowman. Akira is recognized for the role he played in averting a world war and he is appointed a member of the United Nations' military inspection team. Akira and Nina go to the republic of Galea which was suffering from a cold wave. Their plan was to use Big X to solve the food shortage there. The roots of an Irish potato turns into a monstrous being after absorbing Big X. The Republic of Galea had built a secret fortress underground and this was the cause of the cold wave. The monstrous potato goes into the underground fortress and occupies the electronic brain. He starts to call himself King Galea and barks orders in the voice of a human being. Akira calls the cyborg Hans from Japan to destroy King Galea but Hans becomes an ally of King Galea. (To be continued in Vol. IV).

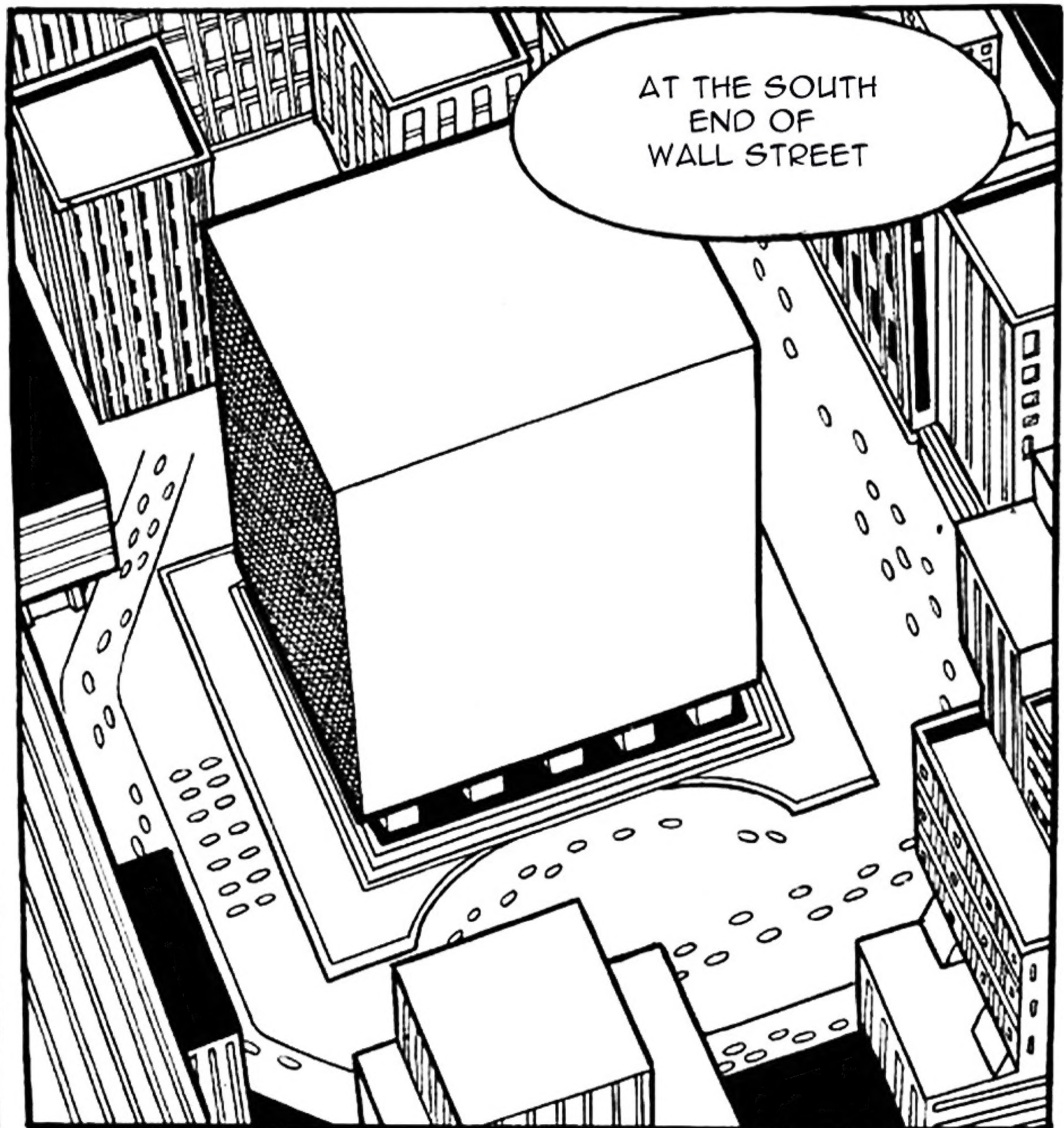
CONTENTS

CHAPTER 12

THE 12 HOUR DUEL


NEW YORK CITY


AN ODD, SQUARE-SHAPED BUILDING STANDS


AT THE SOUTH END OF WALL STREET


IT'S REALLY THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE *CROSS PARTY*


BUT IT'S MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE


YOU'VE PROBABLY HEARD OF IT
NEW YORK CITY
U.S MUSEUM

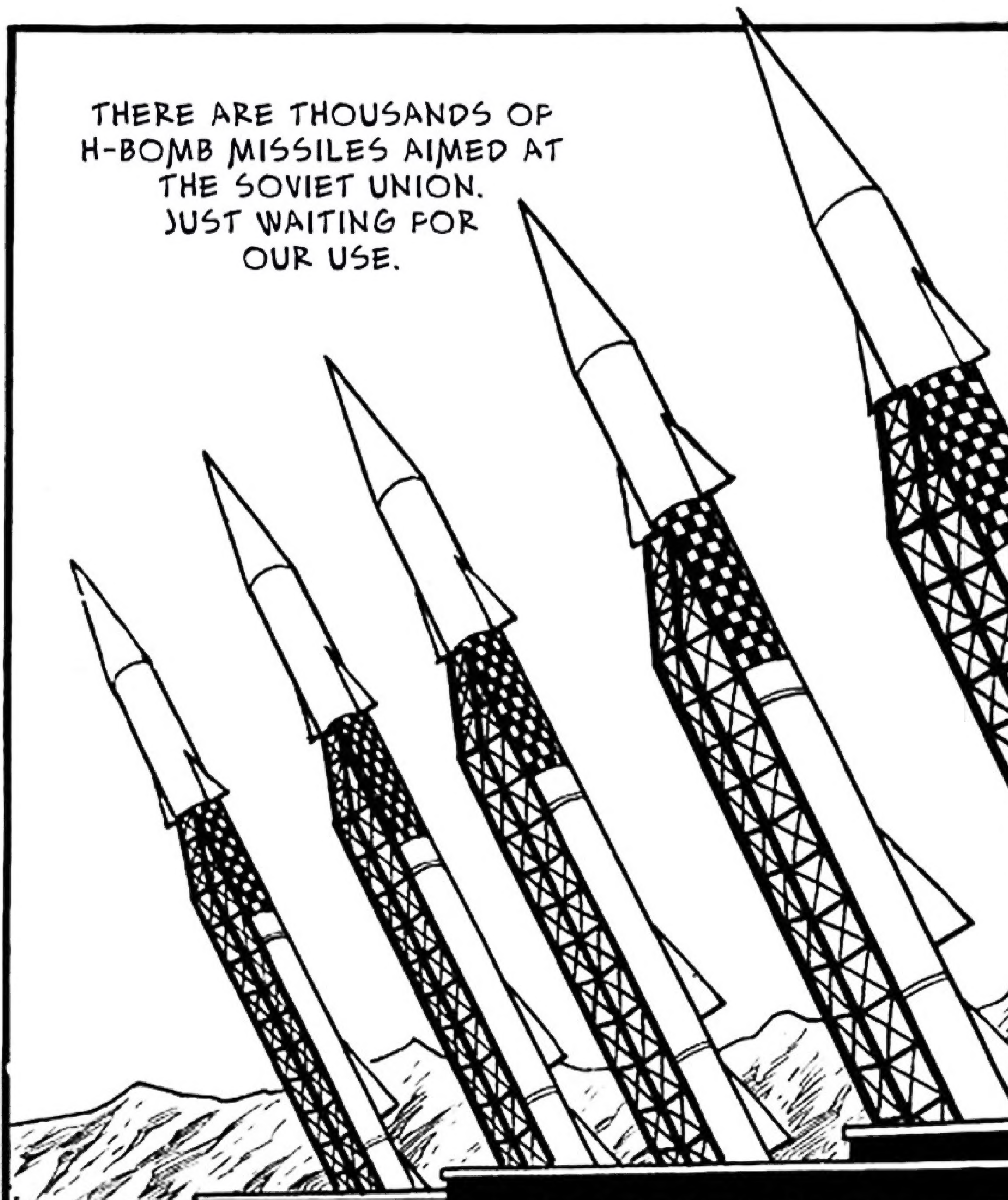

TOMORROW IS THE UNITED STATES PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.
YES, WELL... EVERYTHING IS GOING AS PLANNED


SILVER, I NEED TO HEAR YOUR REPORT


CONGRAT-ULATIONS MR. SILVER
ABSOLUTELY, AND BY THIS TIME TOMORROW, I'LL BE IN THE WHITE HOUSE.

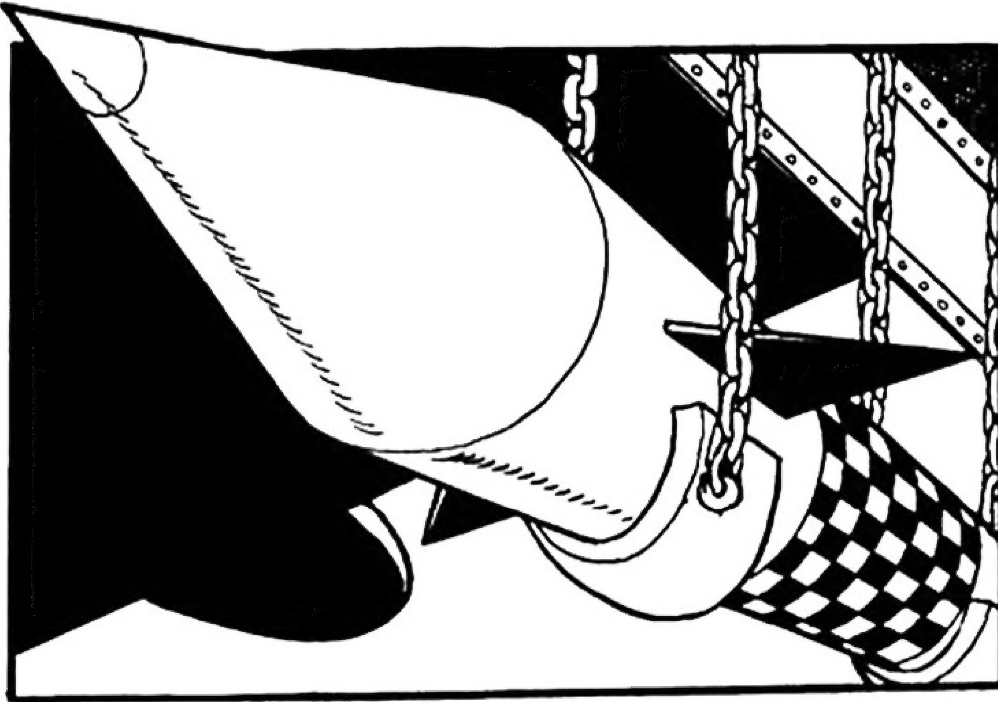

ARE YOU SURE ABOUT YOUR PLAN?

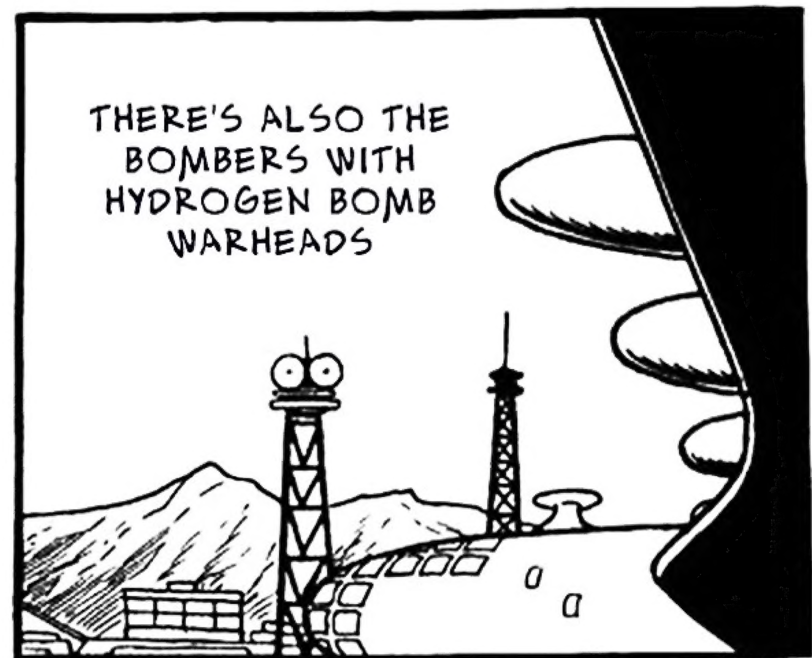

AND THERE IS NO DOUBT IN MY MIND THAT I WILL BE ELECTED

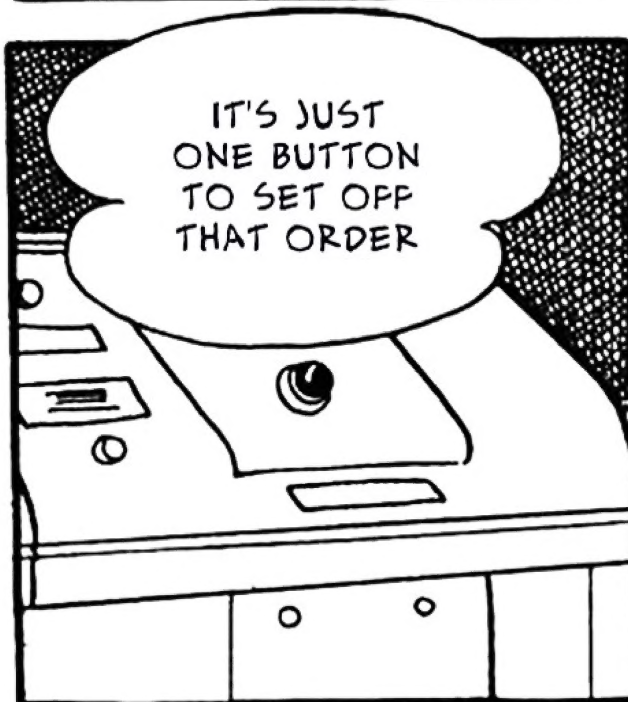

THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF H-BOMB MISSILES AIMED AT THE SOVIET UNION. JUST WAITING FOR OUR USE.

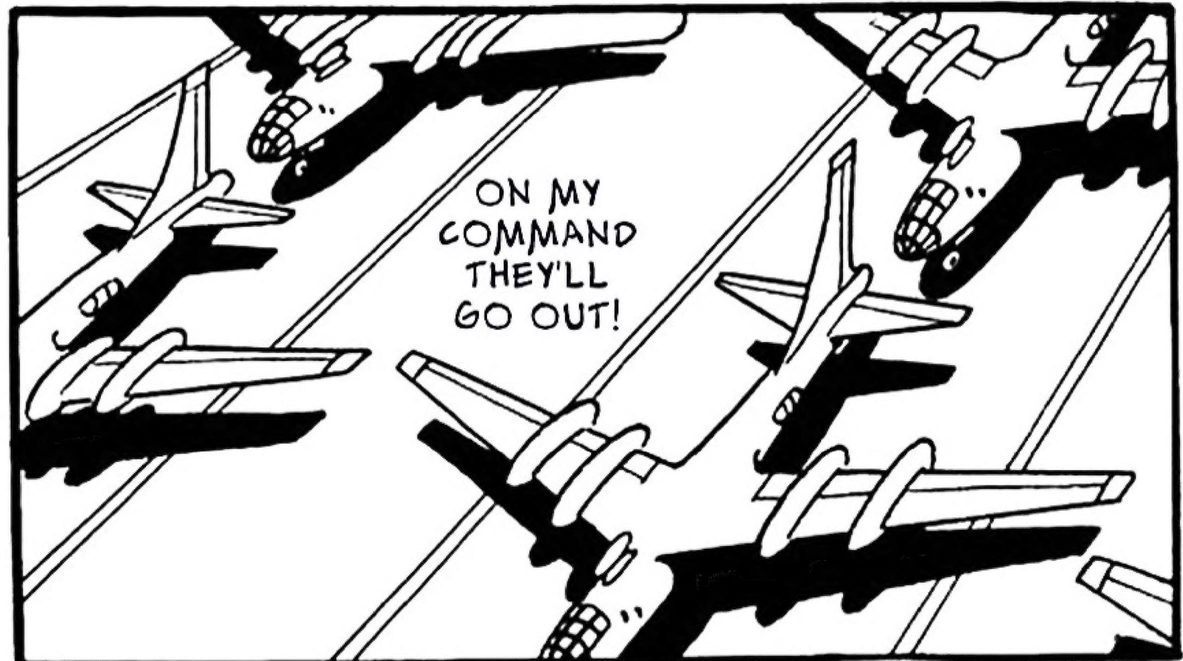

AS SOON AS I'M ELECTED PRESIDENT, I'LL BE ABLE TO CARRY OUT OUR PLAN


LOOK AT THIS. THIS IS THE CAPE BARBERA MISSILE BASE.

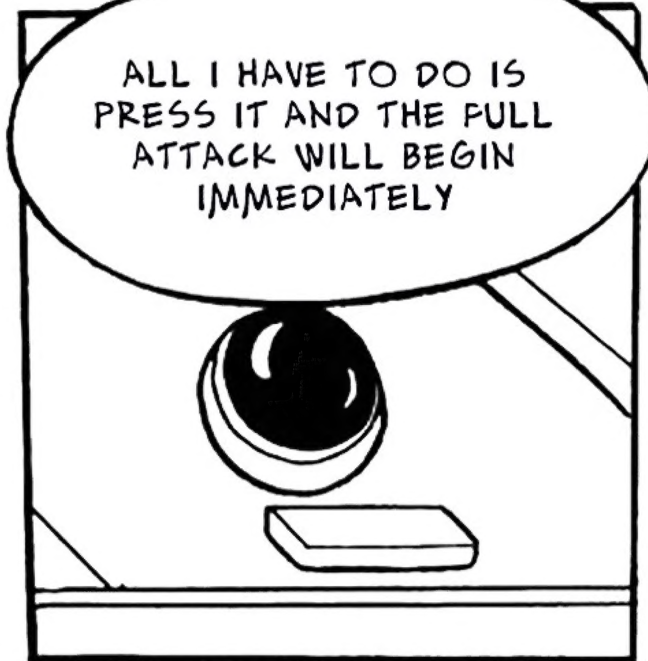


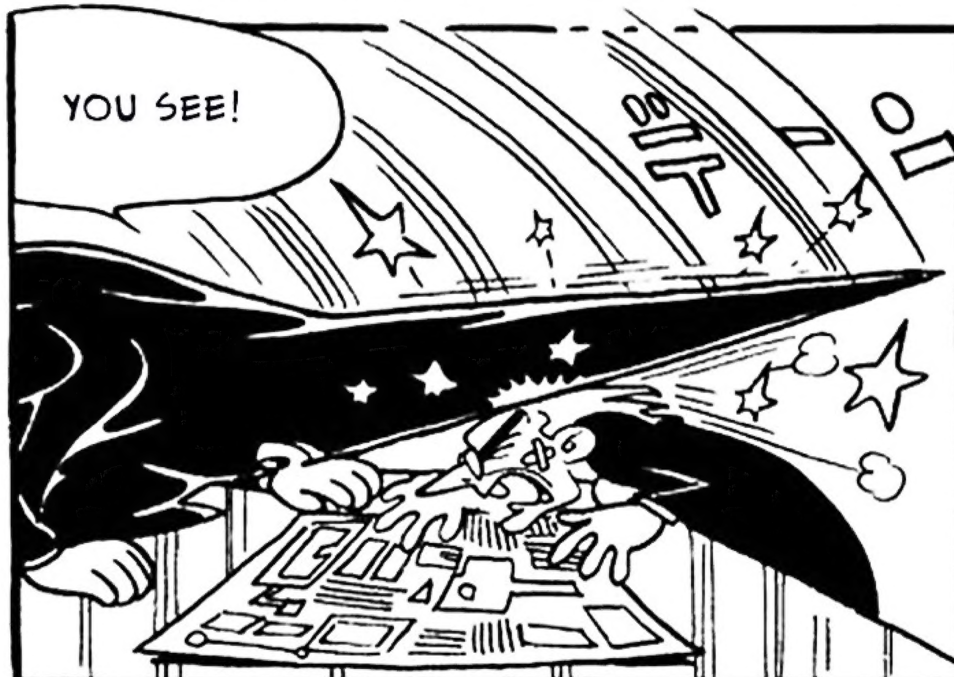

THERE'S ALSO THE BOMBERS WITH HYDROGEN BOMB WARHEADS


IT'S JUST ONE BUTTON TO SET OFF THAT ORDER


ON MY COMMAND THEY'LL GO OUT!

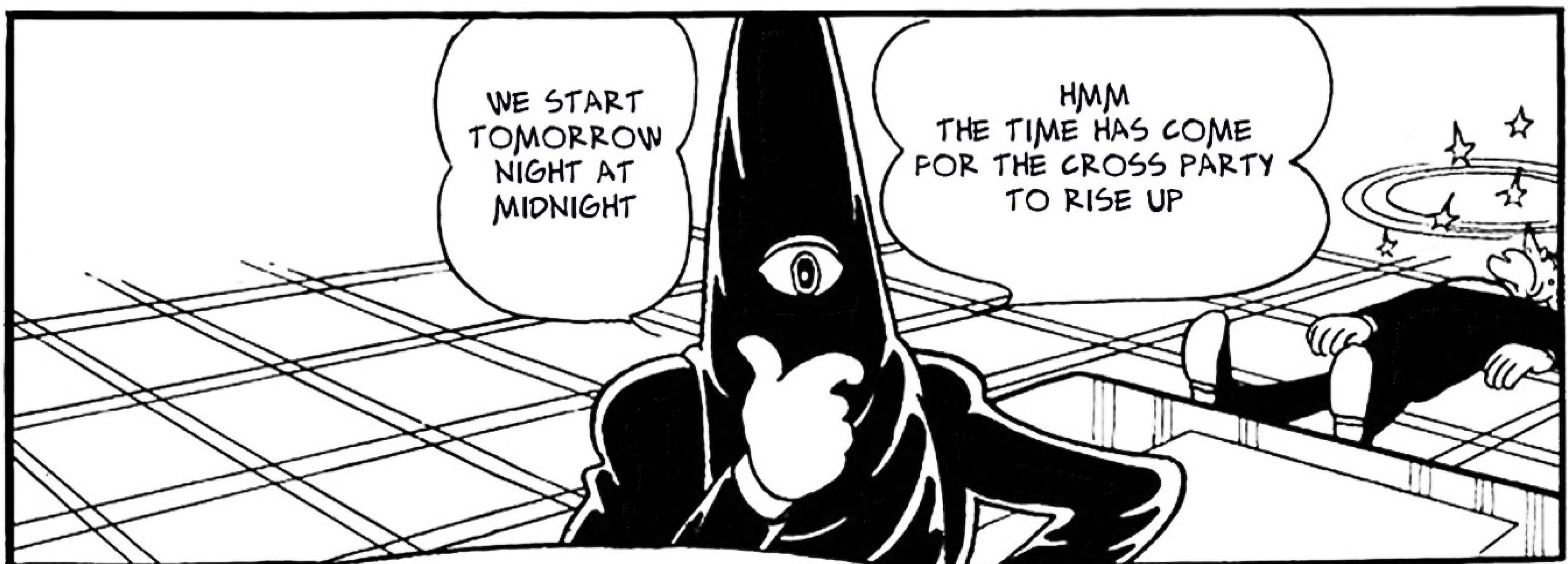

A TAPE RECORDER WITH MY VOICE WILL PLAY A PRERECORDERED MESSAGE ORDERING THAT BUTTON PRESS


ALL I HAVE TO DO IS PRESS IT AND THE FULL ATTACK WILL BEGIN IMMEDIATELY

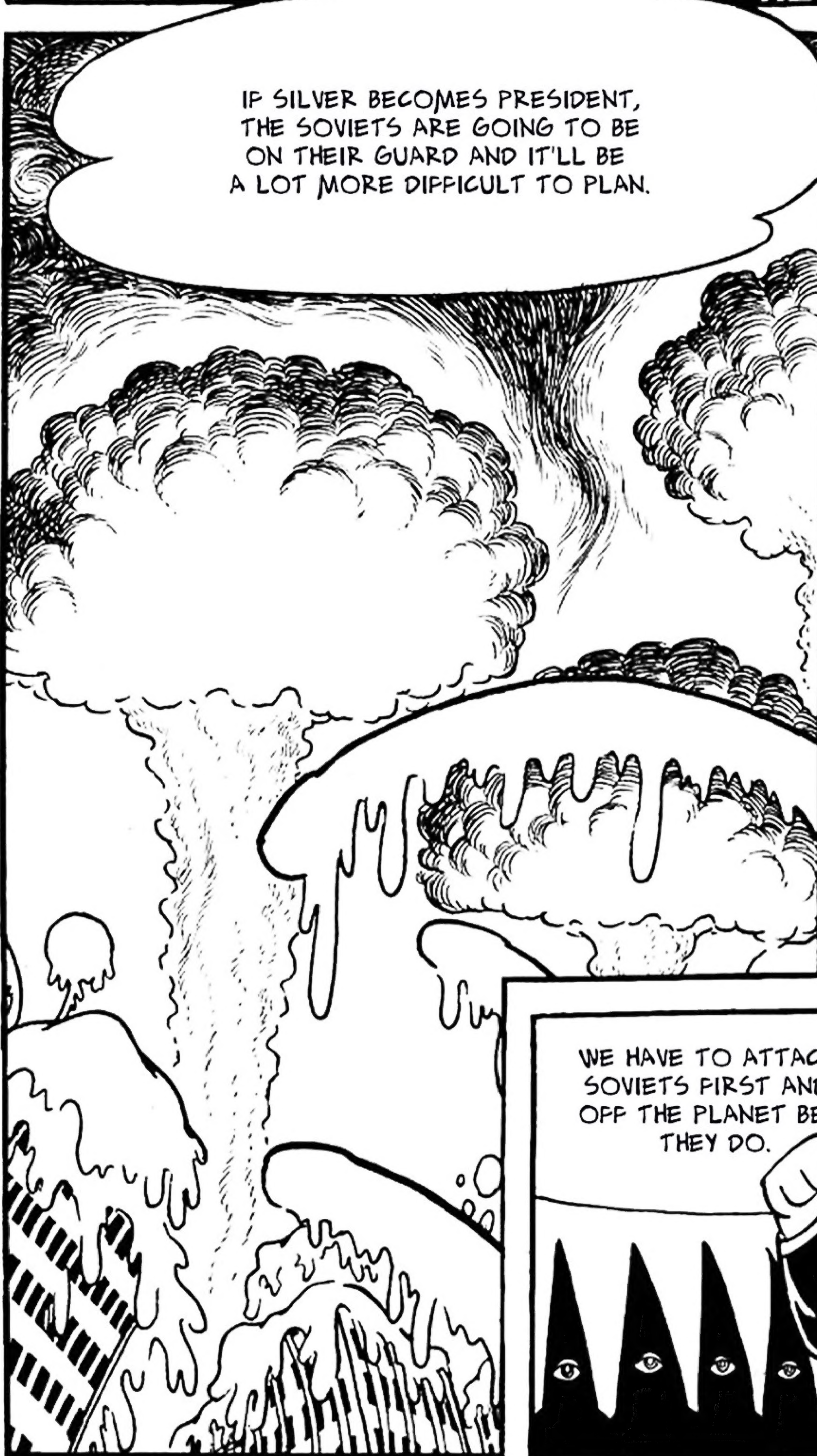

YOU SEE!


DON'T GET TOO CARRIED AWAY... IT'S DANGEROUS


CONGRESS-MAN SILVER!

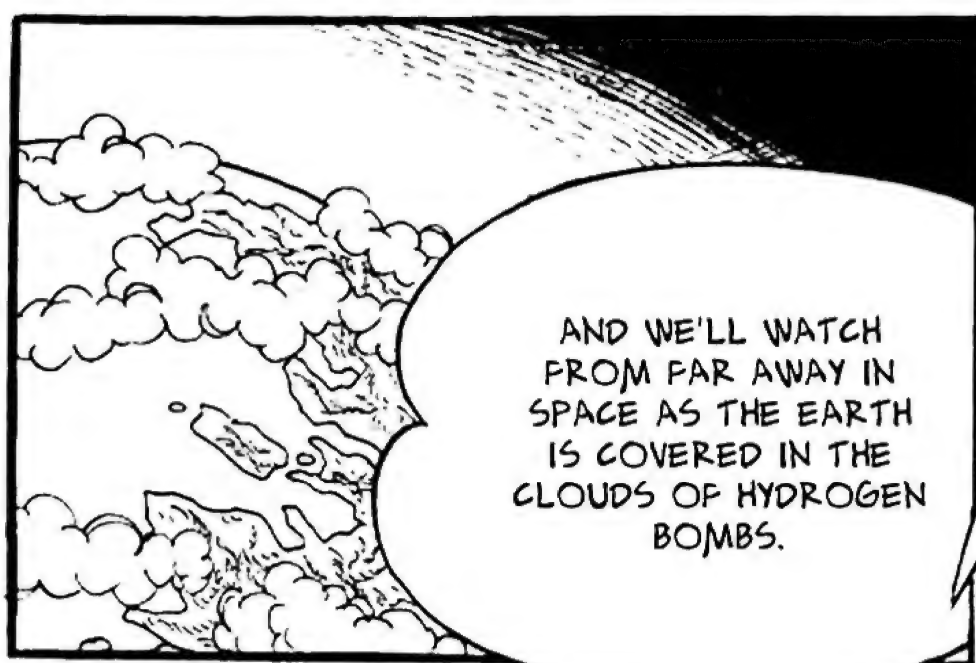

HMM
THE TIME HAS COME FOR THE CROSS PARTY TO RISE UP
WE START TOMORROW NIGHT AT MIDNIGHT

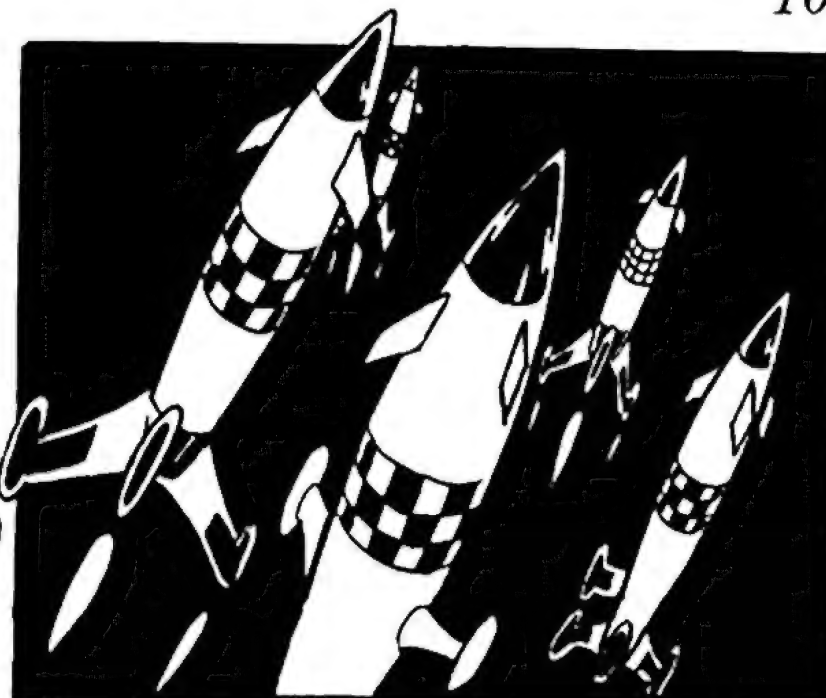

TOMORROW NIGHT AT 12 PM?


IF SILVER BECOMES PRESIDENT, THE SOVIETS ARE GOING TO BE ON THEIR GUARD AND IT'LL BE A LOT MORE DIFFICULT TO PLAN.

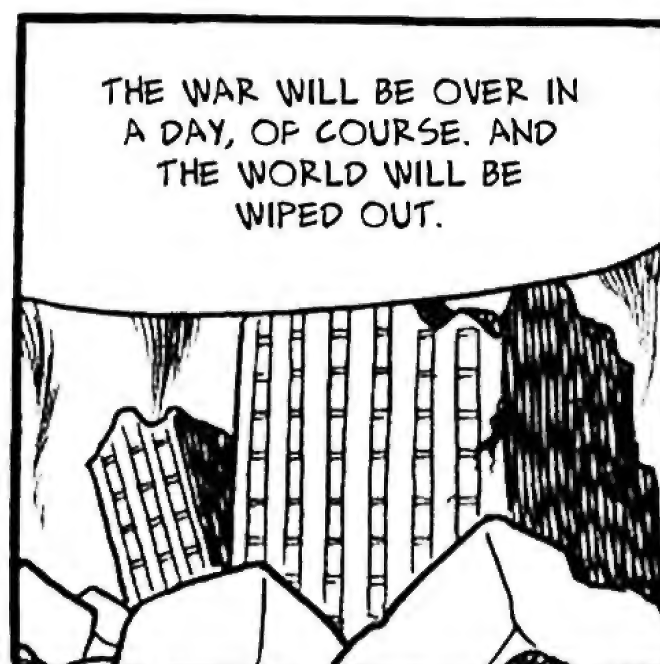

THAT'S IT! WE CAN'T STAY HERE ANY LONGER


SO... AS SOON AS SILVER BECOMES PRESIDENT .....
WE HAVE TO ATTACK THE SOVIETS FIRST AND GET OFF THE PLANET BEFORE THEY DO.


AND WE'LL WATCH FROM FAR AWAY IN SPACE AS THE EARTH IS COVERED IN THE CLOUDS OF HYDROGEN BOMBS.




AND THEN WHEN THE RADIATION HAS WORN OFF, WE'LL RETURN TO EARTH


THE WAR WILL BE OVER IN A DAY, OF COURSE. AND THE WORLD WILL BE WIPED OUT.

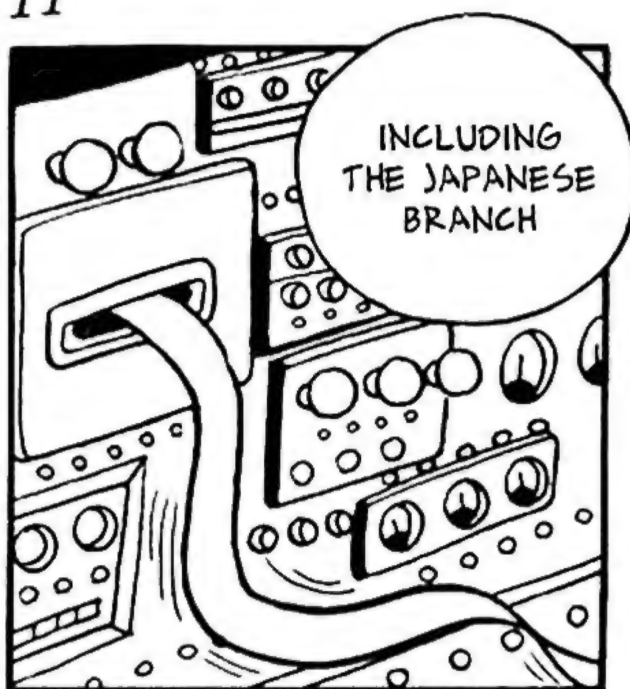

HAIL TO THE CROSS PARTY!


WE ARE THE ONLY ONES WHO CAN PULL THIS OFF


GET THIS MESSAGE OUT TO ALL CROSS PARTY BRANCHES WOLRD WIDE!


THE SECRET ORDER IS SET FOR MIDNIGHT


THIS WAS QUICKLY RELAYED TO EVERY BRANCH WORLDWIDE


INCLUDING THE JAPANESE BRANCH


銀座


WELCOME!

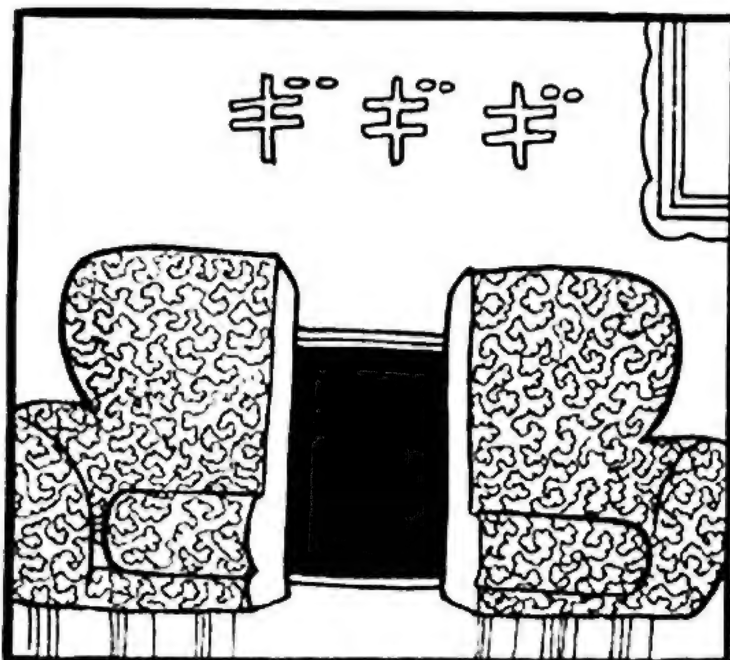

YES SIR, WHAT KIND OF JEWELRY WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE?


PLEASE MAKE A JEWEL THAT LOOKS LIKE THIS


AH... NICE TO MEET YOU SIR. COME THIS WAY PLEASE.


LET'S DISCUSS THIS IN THE BACK ROOM



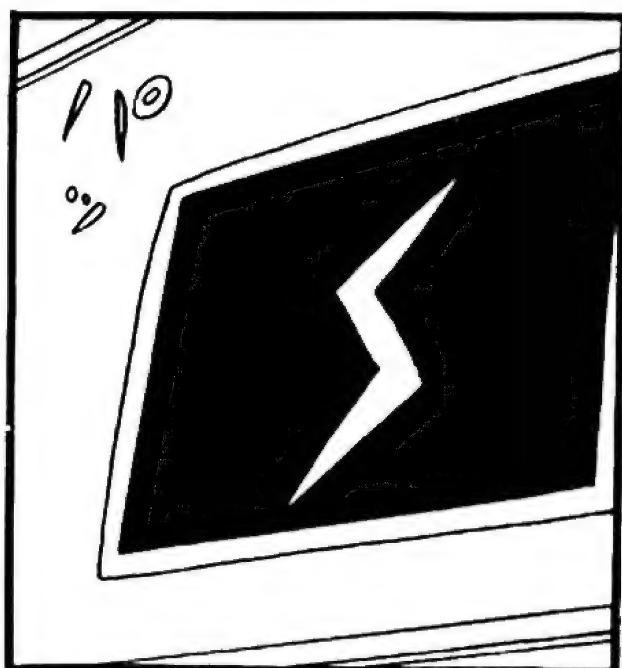

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WATCH YOUR STEP


PLEASE COME IN
HMM NIFTY TRICK

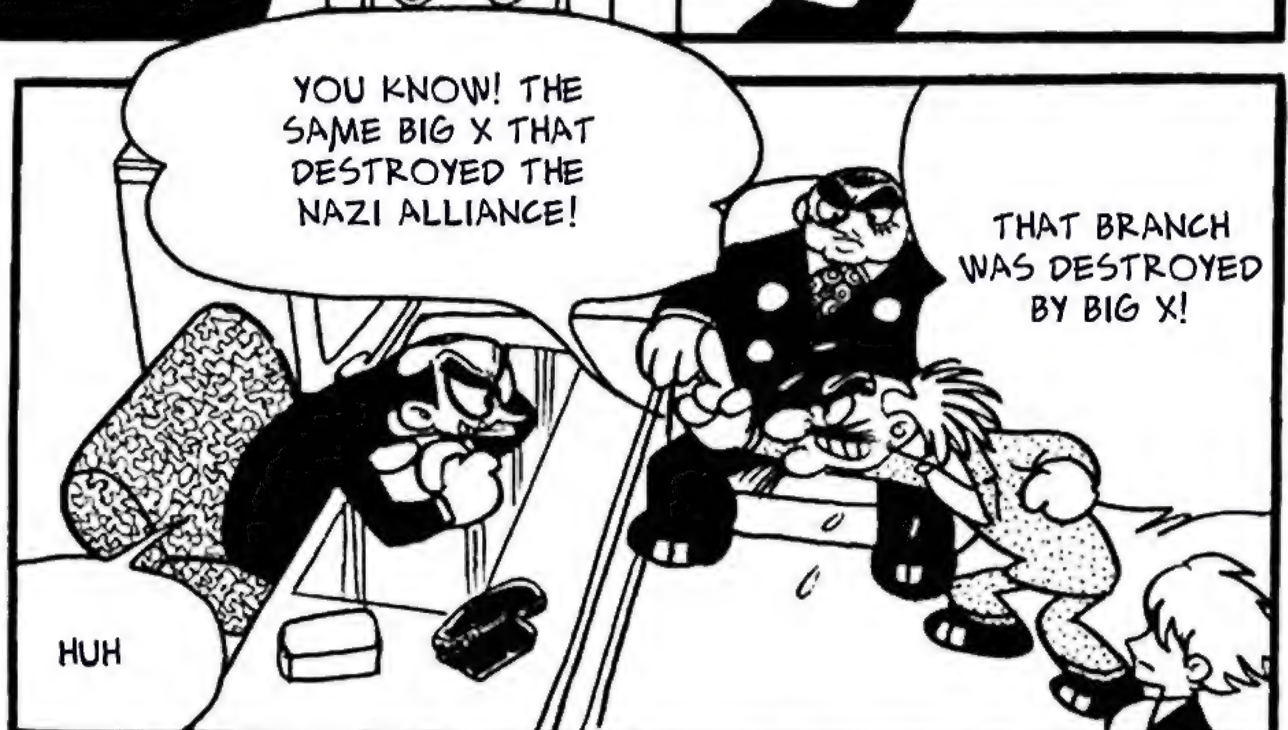

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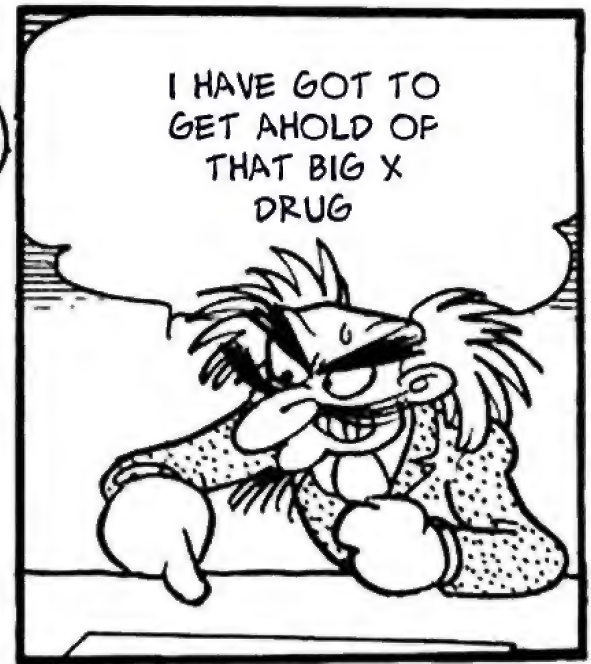

AHHH!..


GLORY TO THE CROSS PARTY!
GLORY TO THE CROSS PARTY!


THIS IS QUITE A SURPRISE. AREN'T YOU THE BRANCH COMMANDER OF THE CAMBODIA-SOUTH ASIA REGION?

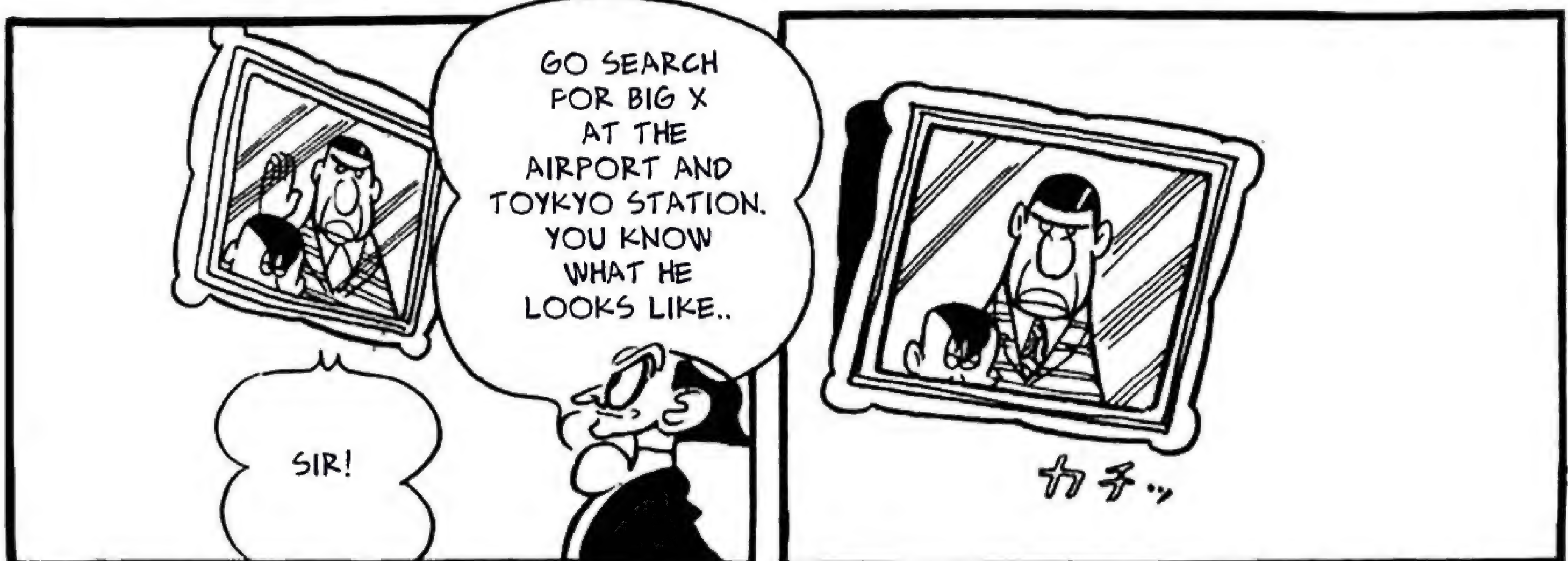

THAT BRANCH WAS DESTROYED BY BIG X!
HUH
YOU KNOW! THE SAME BIG X THAT DESTROYED THE NAZI ALLIANCE!

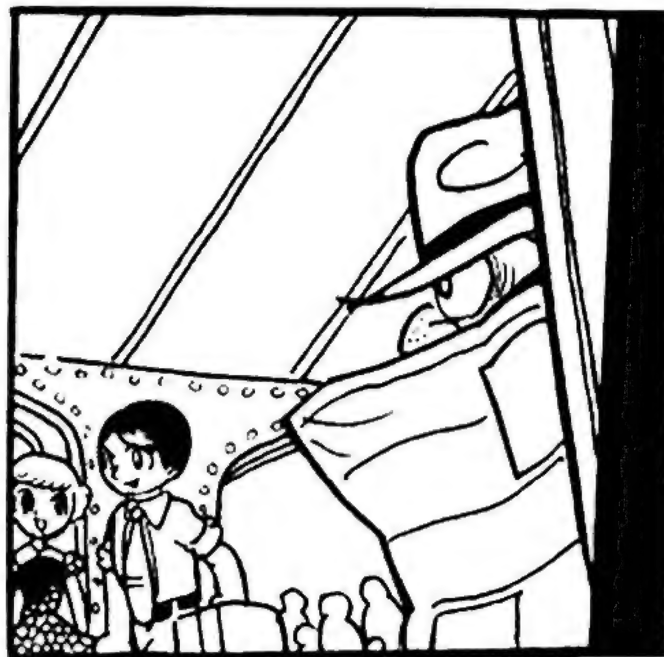

I SEE

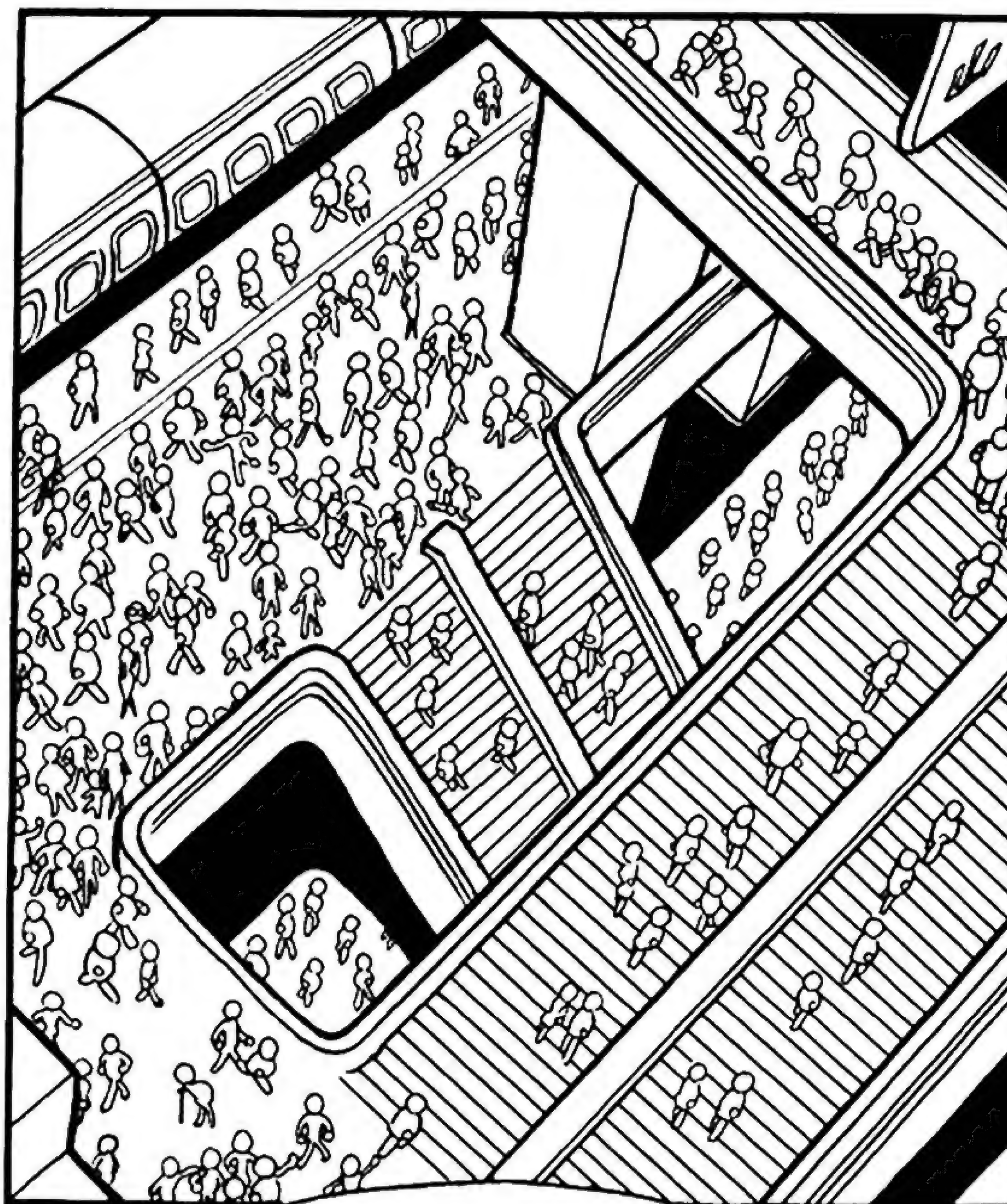

I HAVE GOT TO GET AHOLD OF THAT BIG X DRUG


THE DRUG IS MINE. BUT BIG X MANAGED TO STEAL IT FROM ME


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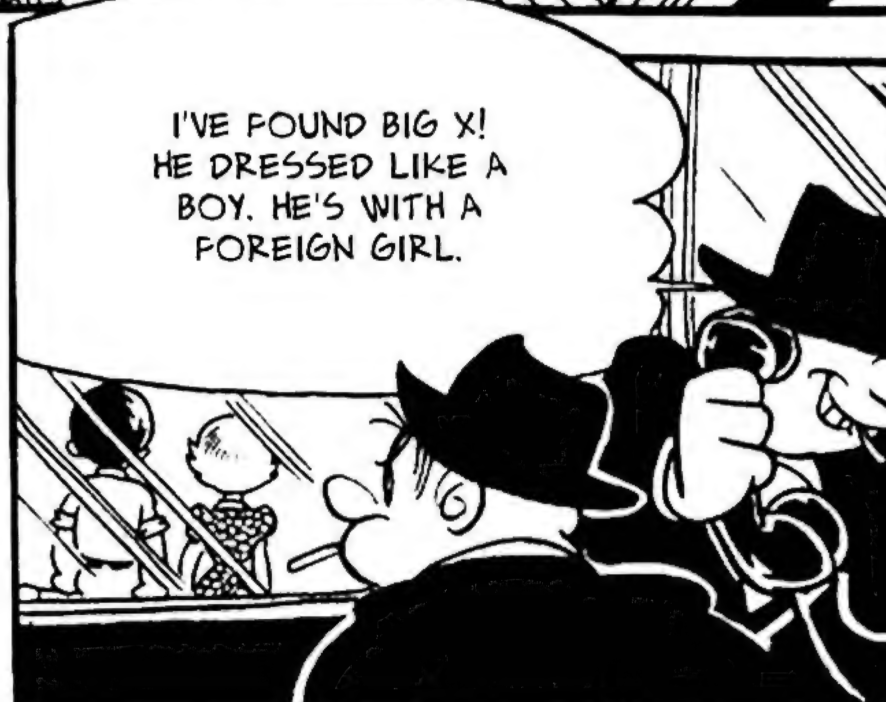

GO SEARCH FOR BIG X AT THE AIRPORT AND TOYKYO STATION. YOU KNOW WHAT HE LOOKS LIKE..
SIR!
カチッ

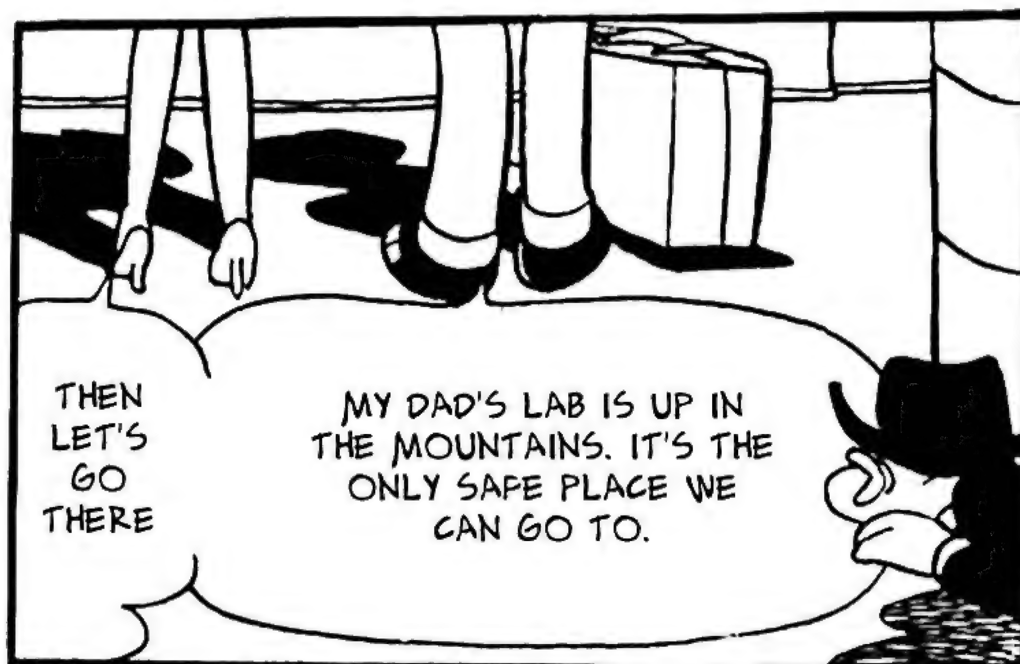





TOKYO....
TOKYO...
YAMANOTE LINE...
CHUO LINE
TRANSFER...




I'VE FOUND BIG X! HE DRESSED LIKE A BOY. HE'S WITH A FOREIGN GIRL.


MY DAD'S LAB IS UP IN THE MOUNTAINS. IT'S THE ONLY SAFE PLACE WE CAN GO TO.
THEN LET'S GO THERE


THIS IS TOKYO. I'M FINALLY BACK IN JAPAN! MY HOME AWAY FROM HOME.
TOKYO. IT SO NICE HERE!


IT'S BEEN A WHILE
WE'RE FINALLY HERE!




OH!


I'M HOME!
MOM!

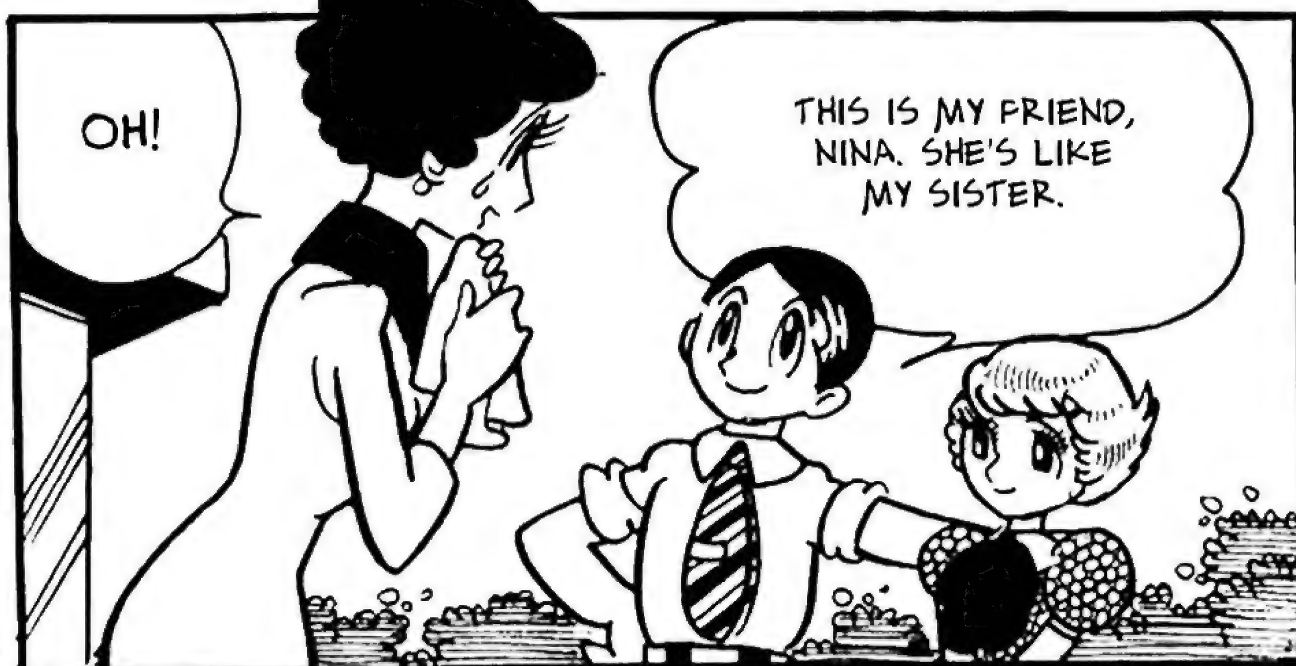

MOM

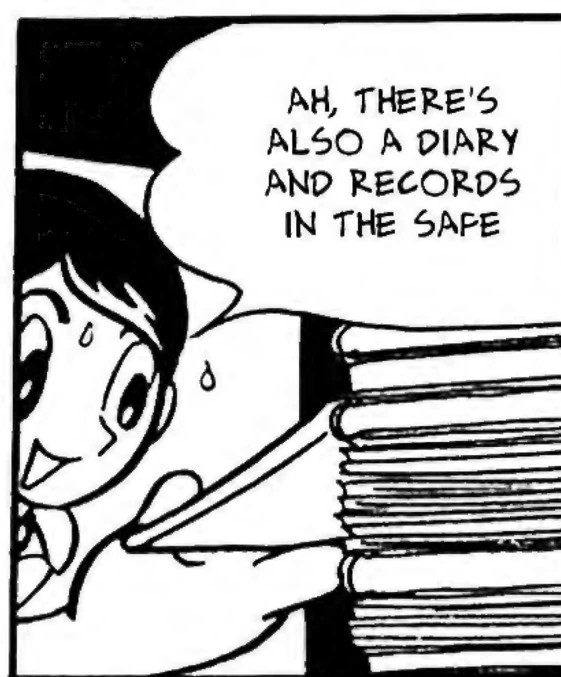



AKIRA! IT'S REALLY AKIRA! LET ME SEE YOUR FACE

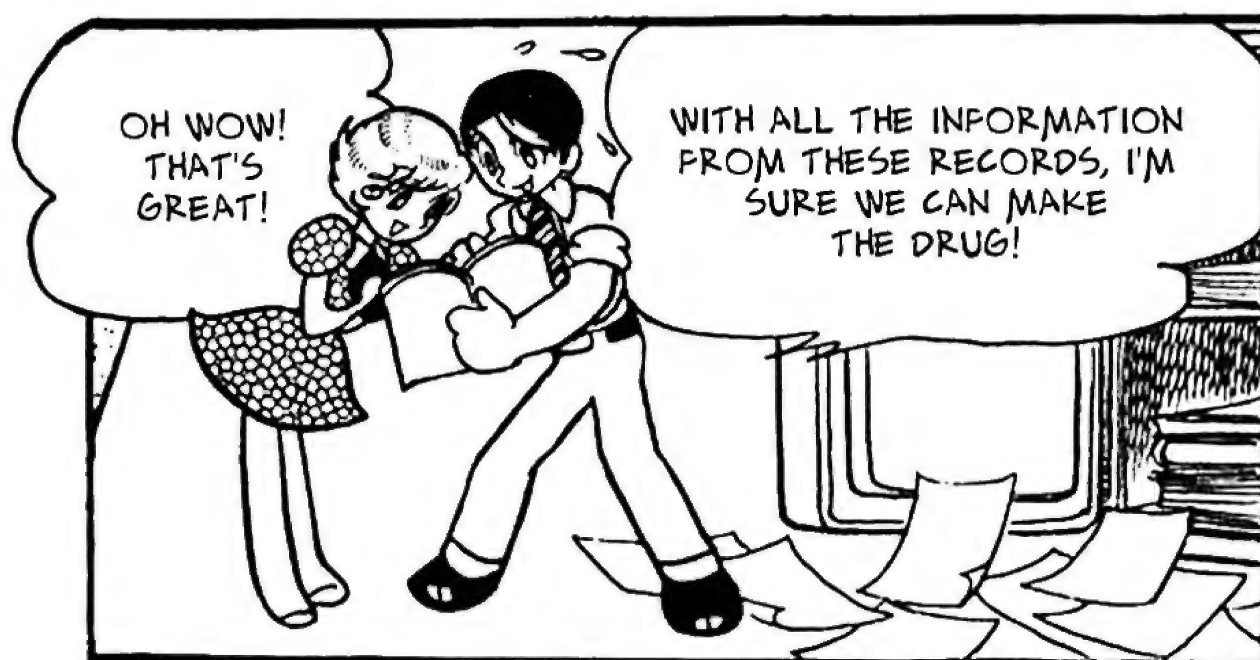

MOMMA!
AKIRA!!


I'M SO GLAD YOU ARE HERE. PLEASE STAY WITH US FOR NOW ON.

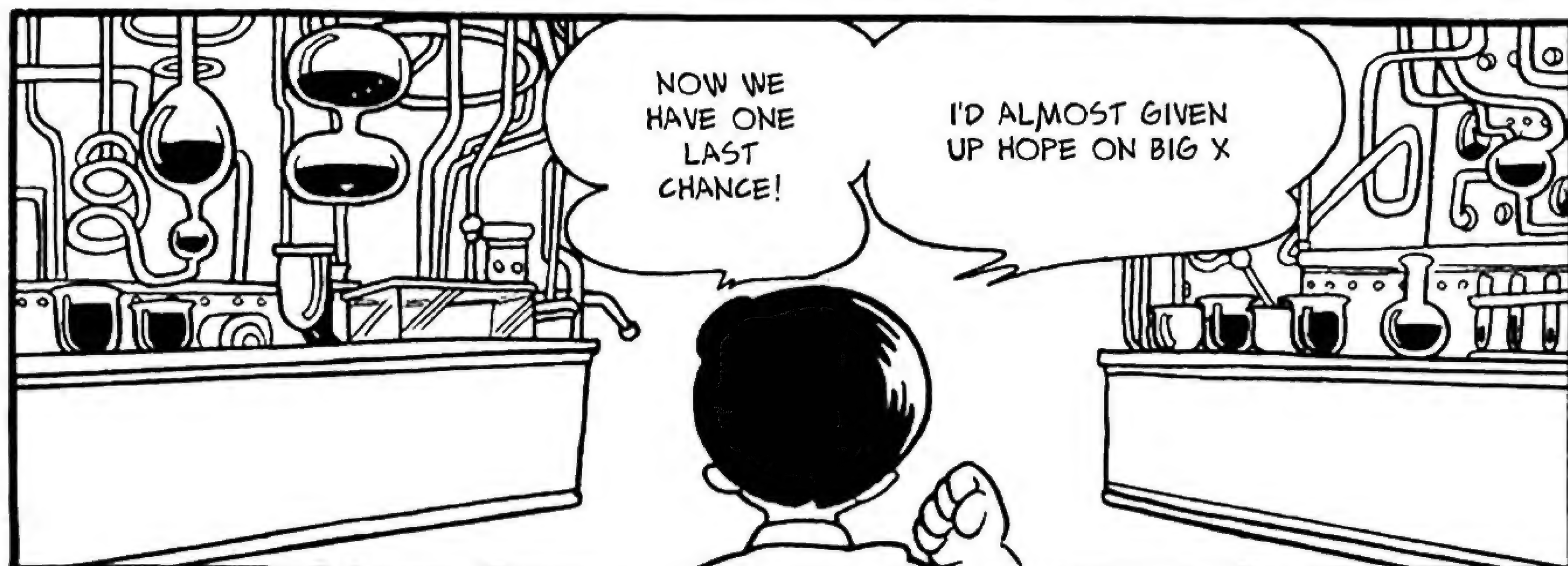

OH!
THIS IS MY FRIEND, NINA. SHE'S LIKE MY SISTER.


AH, THERE'S ALSO A DIARY AND RECORDS IN THE SAFE


YOUR DAD'S ROOM HAS BEEN LEFT UNTOUCHED. COME ON AKIRA.
DAD'S RESEARCH PAPERS ARE ALL STILL HERE?
THANK GOODNESS!


OH WOW! THAT'S GREAT!
WITH ALL THE INFORMATION FROM THESE RECORDS, I'M SURE WE CAN MAKE THE DRUG!


NINA, TAKE A LOOK AT THIS... IT'S NOTES ON THE FORUMLA!

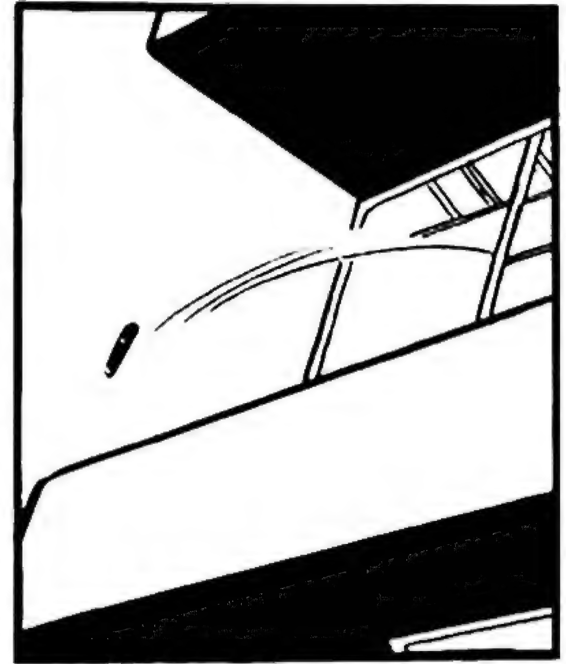

I'D ALMOST GIVEN UP HOPE ON BIG X
NOW WE HAVE ONE LAST CHANCE!


I DON'T NEED IT ANY MORE
THIS ....


BIG X IS IN OUR HANDS
JUST WATCH! I'LL MAKE SURE TO MAKE IT RIGHT!

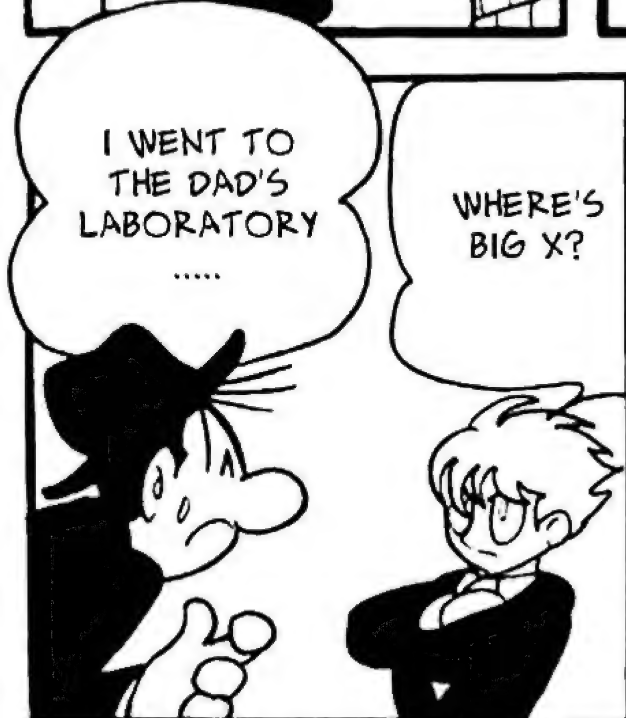

WHAT THE HECK IS THAT?
A WEIRD PEN FELL ON MY HEAD


OW




HEHEHE THIS IS PURTY HIGH END STUFF


THIS IS GREAT!
WHATEVER.... IT'S MINE NOW!
WAIT!
THAT'S MINE CUZ I GOT HIT WITH IT!


I WENT TO THE DAD'S LABORATORY .....
WHERE'S BIG X?


YOW!
WHAT'S GOING ON? WHY AREN'T YOU REPORTING IN?




WAIT! I NEED TO SEE IT!
I GOT IT FROM A BUDDY OF MINE!


WHERE'D YOU GET THAT PEN?


OH! HOW FORTUNATE IT IS THAT THE PEN IS BACK IN MY HANDS!
I'M NOT DREAMING! IT REALLY IS THE BIG X PEN!


AH!




LISTEN TO ME. YOU KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT ABOUT THIS! DON'T TELL ANYONE! IF YOU DO YOU'LL REGRET IT!

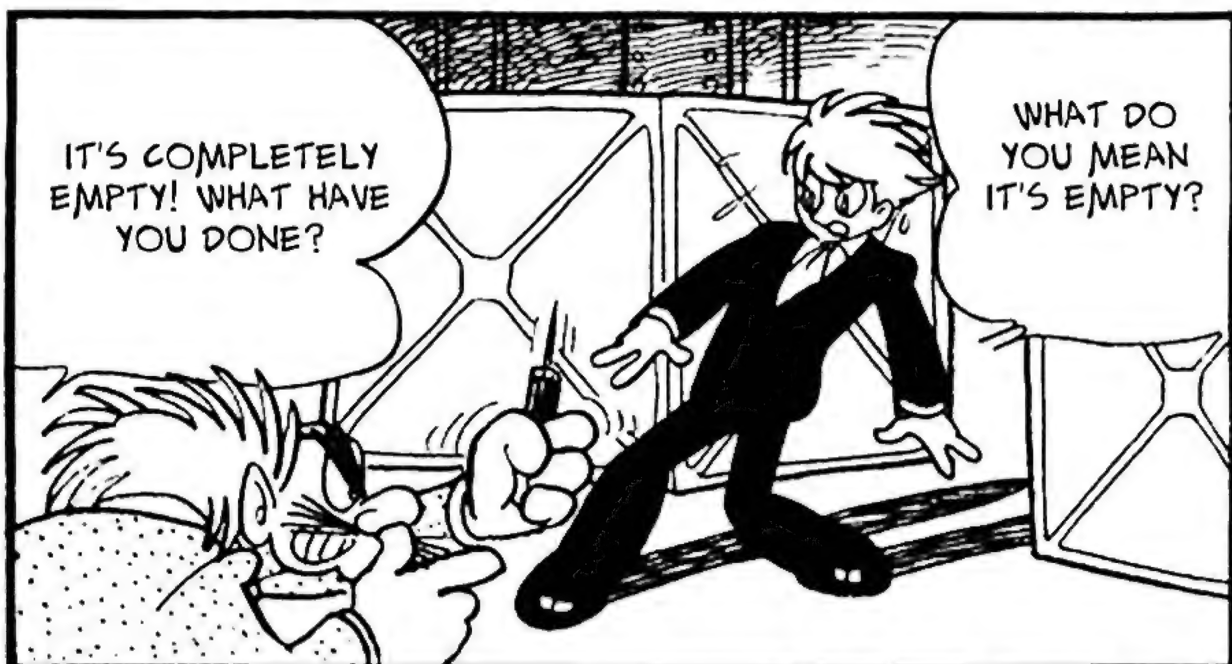

I HEARD YOU MENTION THE BIG X PEN. I HOPE YOU ARE NOT HIDING IT.
HANS, EH? I'VE HEARD ALL ABOUT YOU FROM THIS GENTLEMAN


DON'T PLAY DUMB. SHOW US THE PEN
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WHAT DO YOU HAVE THERE, HANS?

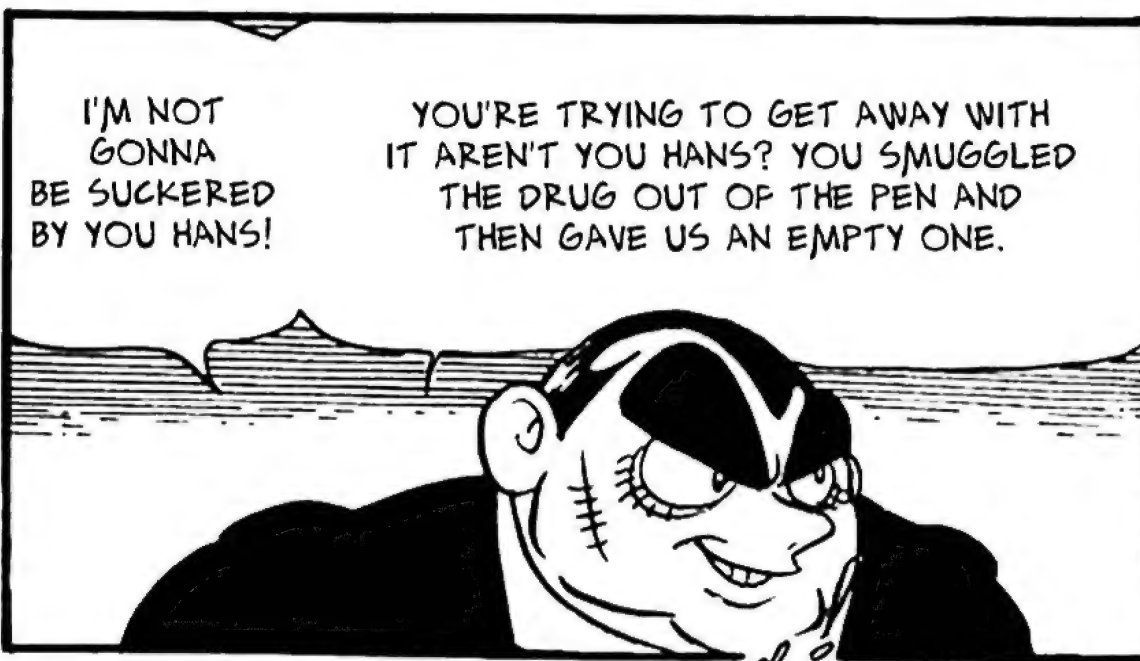

MM?

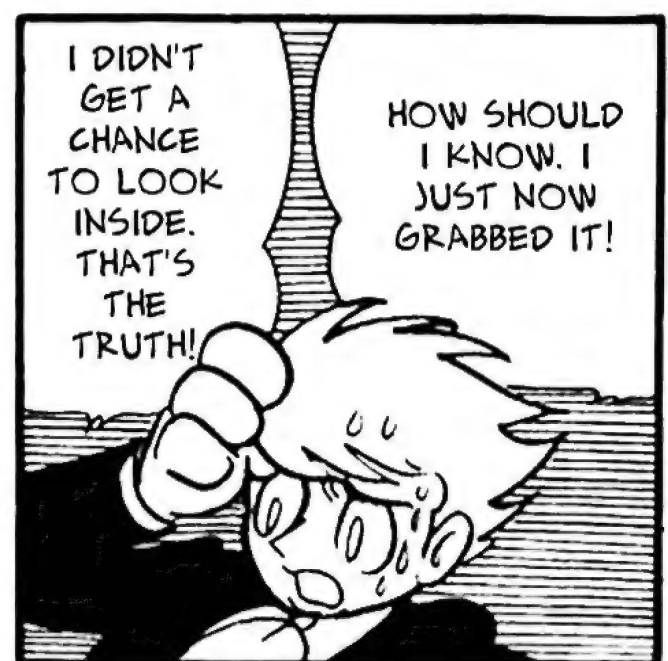

YES INDEED. AH, THIS PEN!


HMPH... NO CHOICE I GUESS


IT'S COMPLETELY EMPTY! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN IT'S EMPTY?


THERE'S NOTHING IN THERE! IT'S EMPTY!

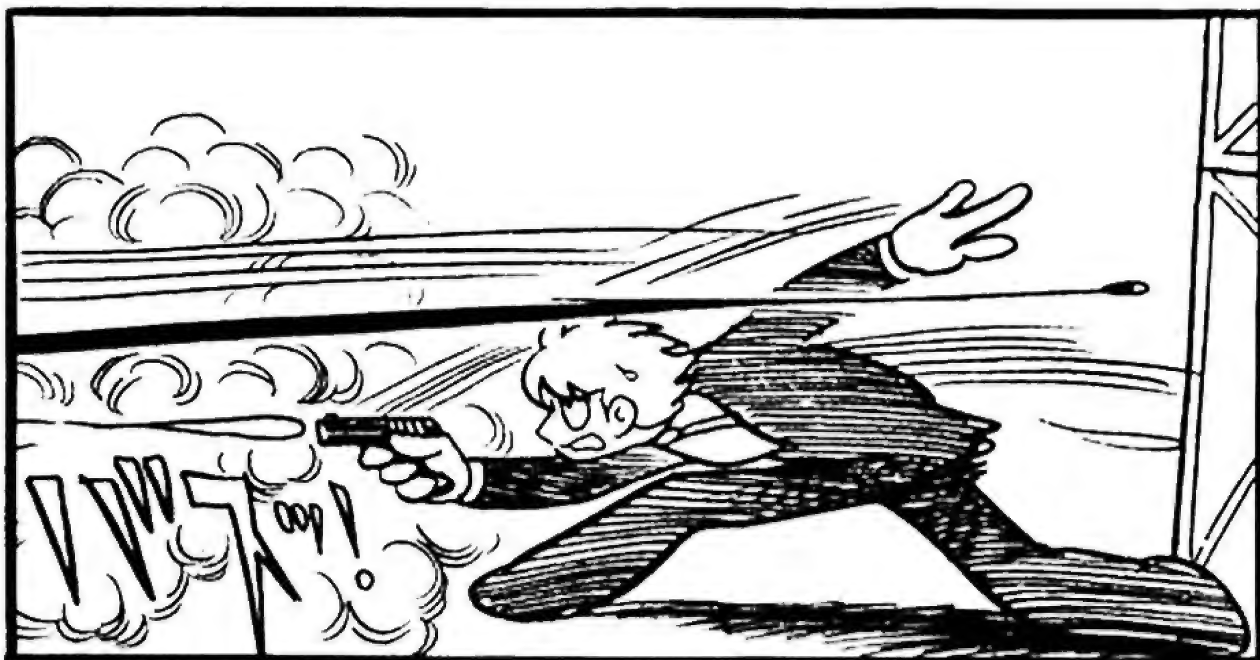

I'M NOT GONNA BE SUCKERED BY YOU HANS!
YOU'RE TRYING TO GET AWAY WITH IT AREN'T YOU HANS? YOU SMUGGLED THE DRUG OUT OF THE PEN AND THEN GAVE US AN EMPTY ONE.


I DIDN'T GET A CHANCE TO LOOK INSIDE. THAT'S THE TRUTH!
HOW SHOULD I KNOW. I JUST NOW GRABBED IT!

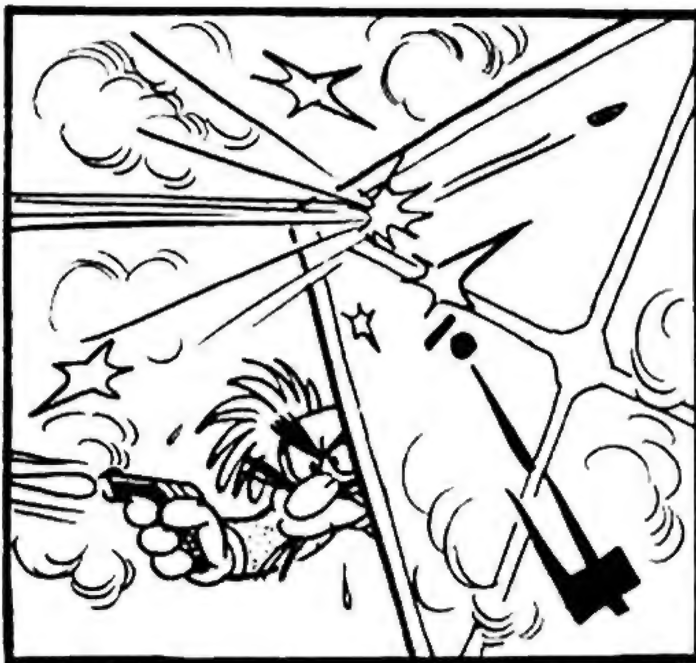

I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THE DRUG!
THAT'S NOT TRUE! IT'S NOT LIKE THAT!


I ALWAYS THOUGHT YOU WERE A RAT!

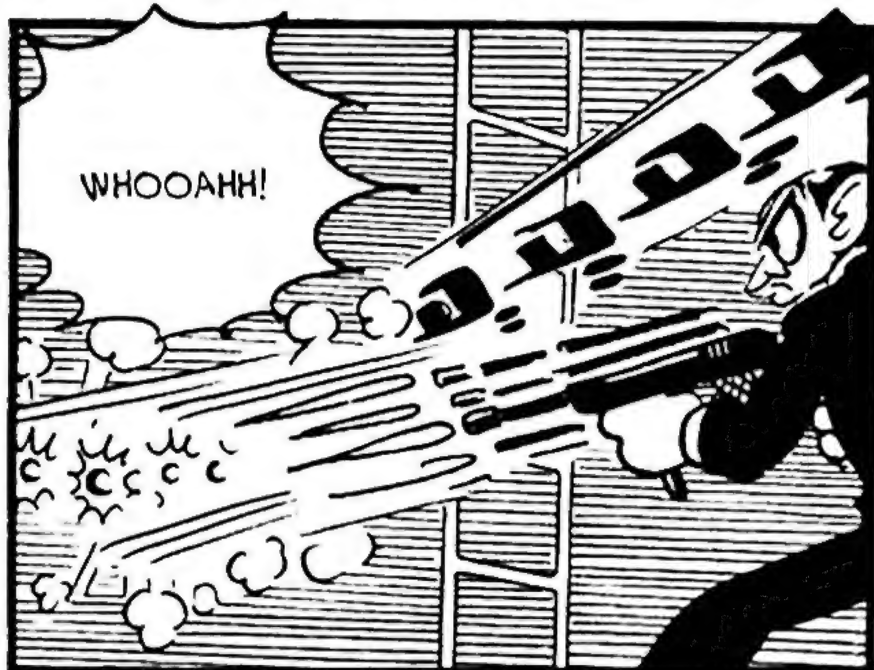










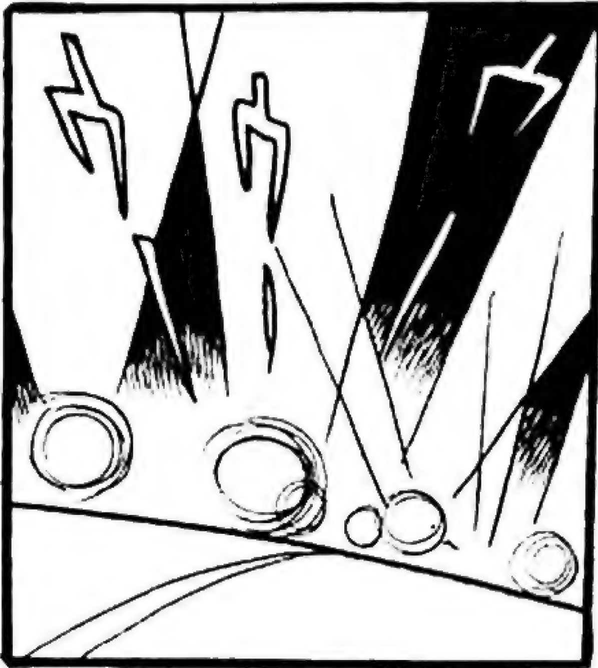

WHOOAHH!

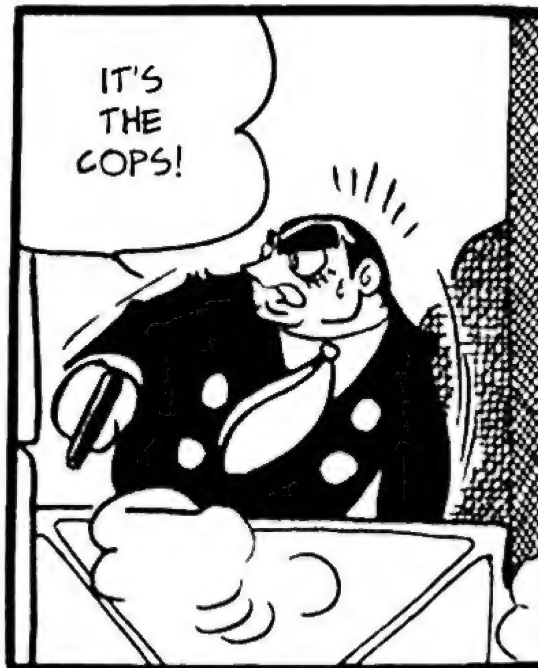








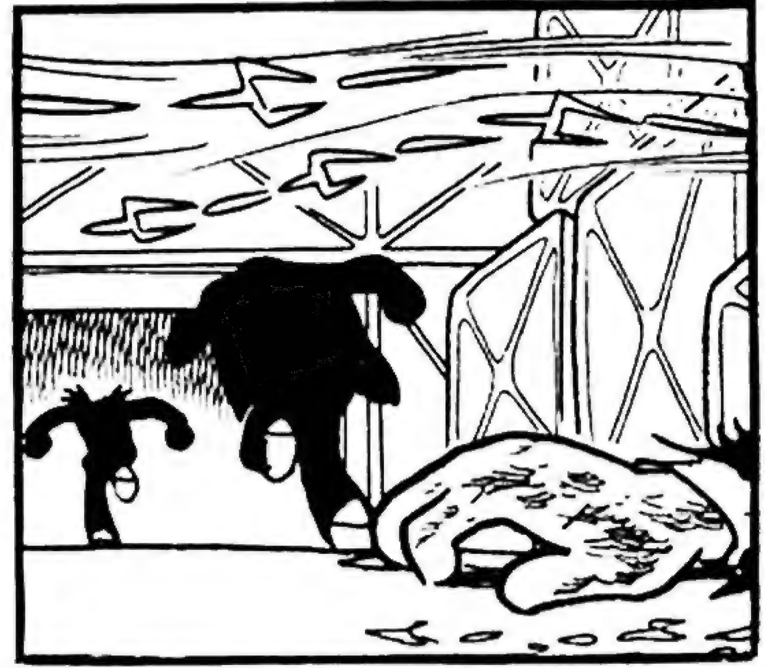


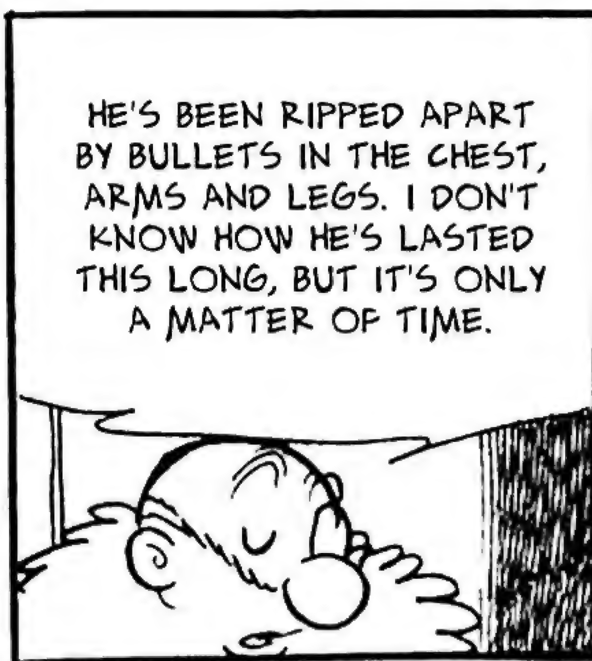

IT'S THE COPS!







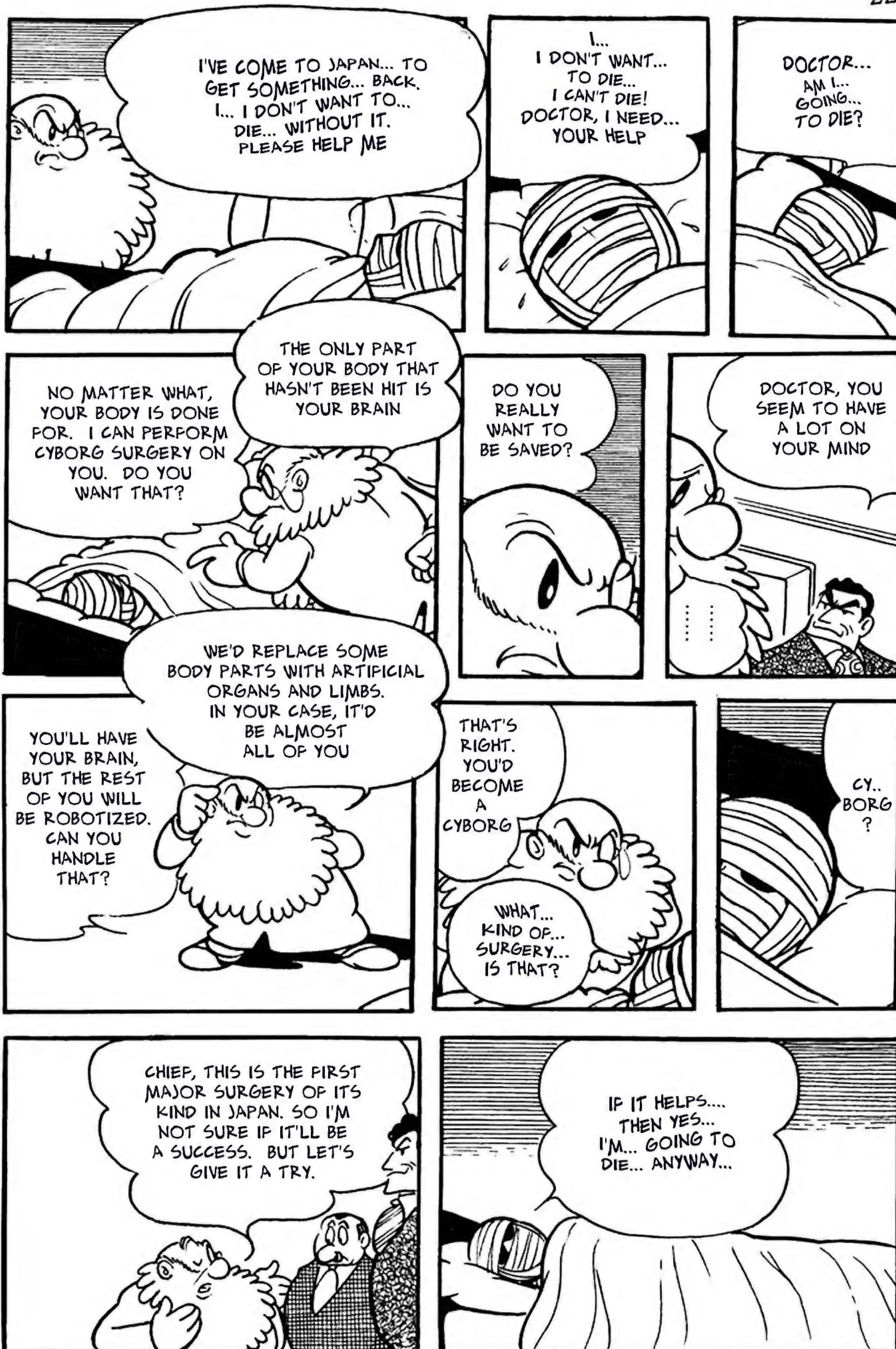


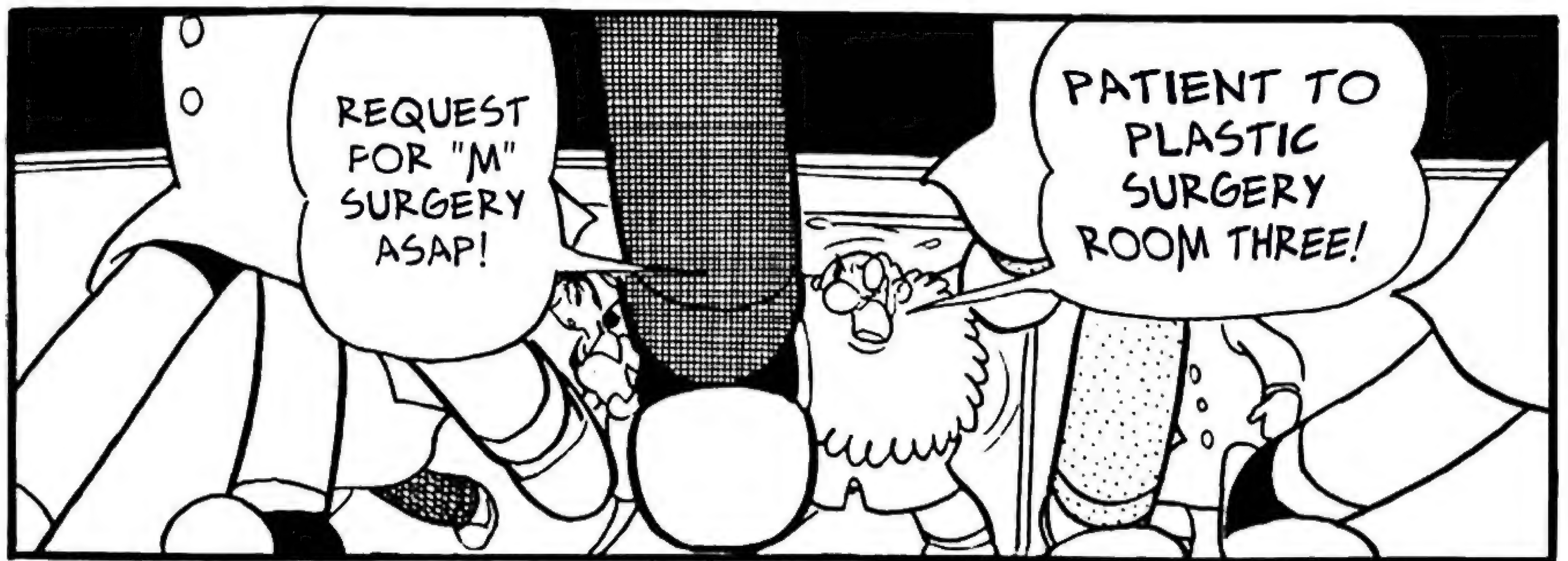

HE'S BEEN RIPPED APART BY BULLETS IN THE CHEST, ARMS AND LEGS. I DON'T KNOW HOW HE'S LASTED THIS LONG, BUT IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME.

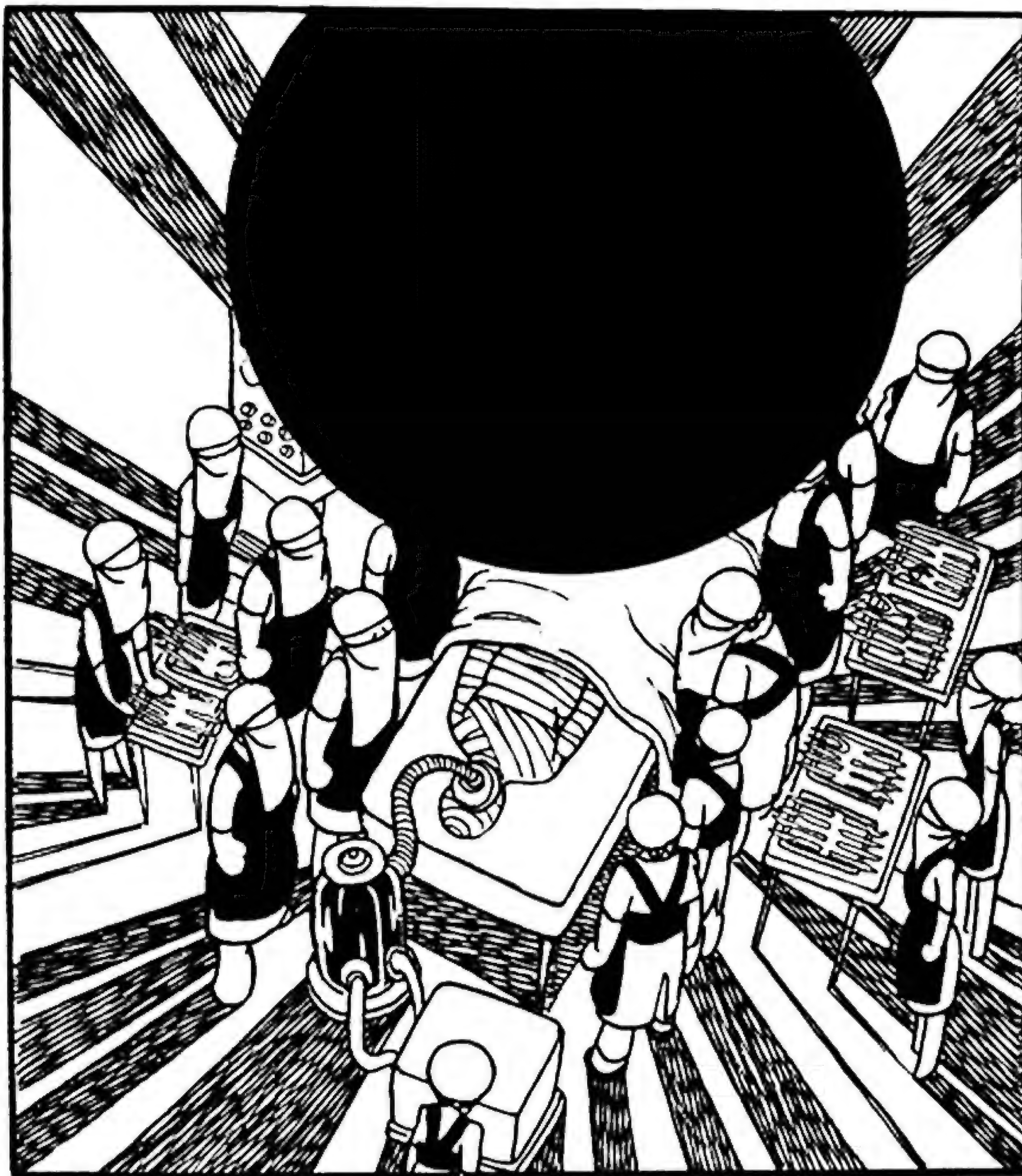

DOCTOR. HOW'S HE DOING?

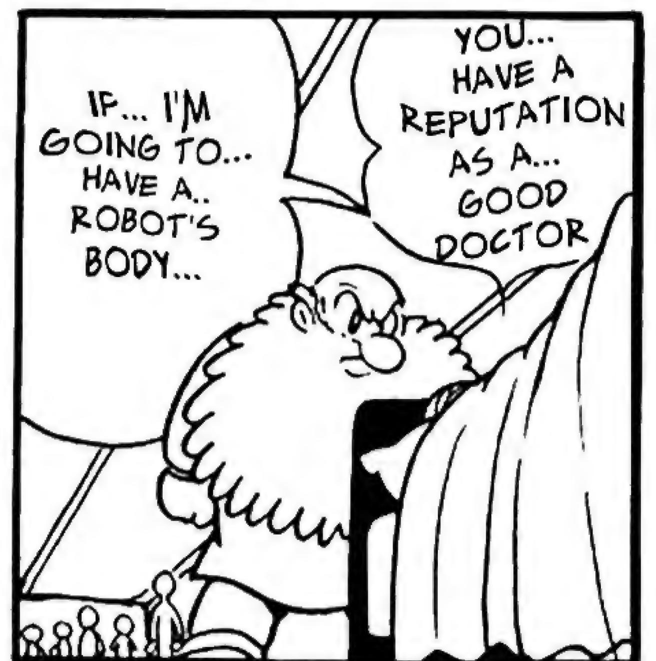

医大病院


MY... NAME...
HANS...
...ENGEL...


I'VE COME TO JAPAN... TO GET SOMETHING... BACK. I... I DON'T WANT TO... DIE... WITHOUT IT. PLEASE HELP ME
I... I DON'T WANT... TO DIE... I CAN'T DIE! DOCTOR, I NEED... YOUR HELP
DOCTOR... AM I... GOING... TO DIE?
NO MATTER WHAT, YOUR BODY IS DONE FOR. I CAN PERFORM CYBORG SURGERY ON YOU. DO YOU WANT THAT?
THE ONLY PART OF YOUR BODY THAT HASN'T BEEN HIT IS YOUR BRAIN
DO YOU REALLY WANT TO BE SAVED?
DOCTOR, YOU SEEM TO HAVE A LOT ON YOUR MIND
WE'D REPLACE SOME BODY PARTS WITH ARTIFICIAL ORGANS AND LIMBS. IN YOUR CASE, IT'D BE ALMOST ALL OF YOU
YOU'LL HAVE YOUR BRAIN, BUT THE REST OF YOU WILL BE ROBOTIZED. CAN YOU HANDLE THAT?
THAT'S RIGHT. YOU'D BECOME A CYBORG
WHAT... KIND OF... SURGERY... IS THAT?
CY.. BORG ?
CHIEF, THIS IS THE FIRST MAJOR SURGERY OF ITS KIND IN JAPAN. SO I'M NOT SURE IF IT'LL BE A SUCCESS. BUT LET'S GIVE IT A TRY.
IF IT HELPS.... THEN YES... I'M... GOING TO DIE... ANYWAY...


PATIENT TO PLASTIC SURGERY ROOM THREE!
REQUEST FOR "M" SURGERY ASAP!

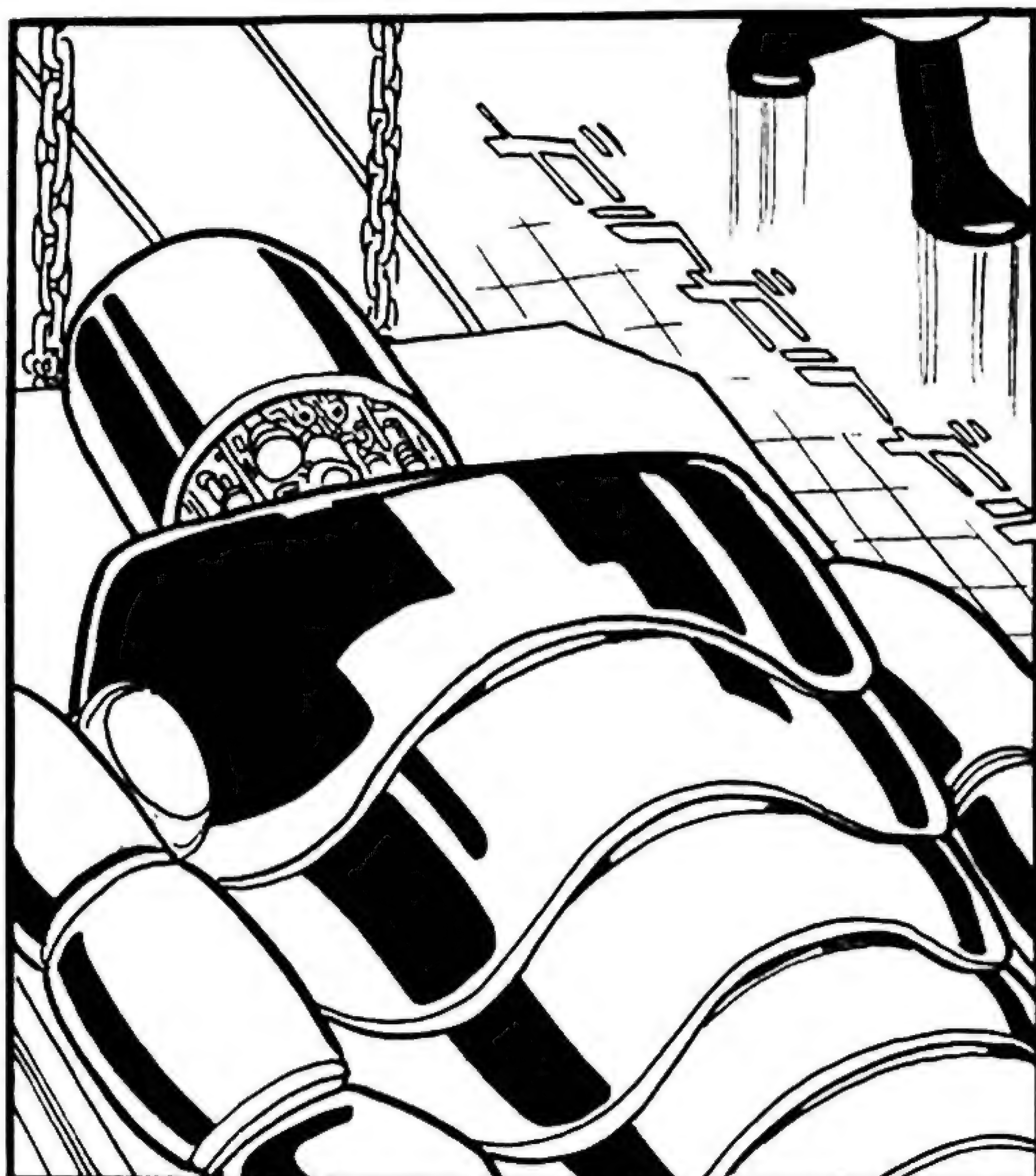


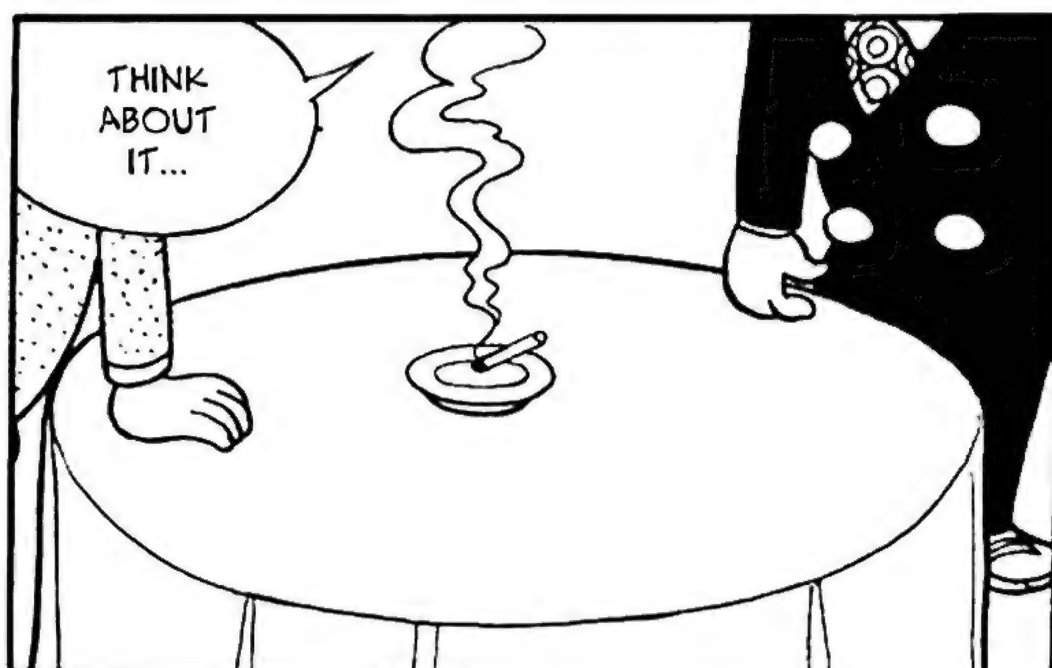

YOU... HAVE A REPUTATION AS A... GOOD DOCTOR
IF... I'M GOING TO... HAVE A.. ROBOT'S BODY...


手術室
PLEASE... MAKE THE... BODY... GIGANTIC... YES... IT NEEDS... TO BE.. HUGE...


ANESTHESIA .... SCALPEL ....
♀♂∞+!


GET ME THE MODEL "M" BODY ....




THINK ABOUT IT...

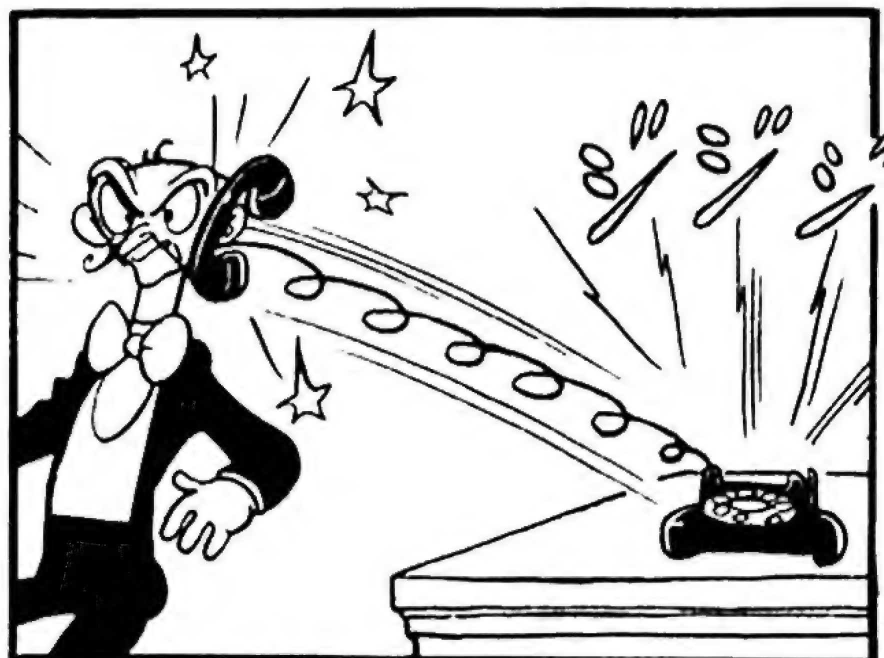

IF THE PEN DIDN'T HAVE ANY MORE OF THE DRUG IN IT, MAYBE THAT'S WHY BIG X THEW IT AWAY


YES, THAT IS A GOOD POINT


THAT WOULD EXPLAIN IT


SO MAYBE BIG X WENT BACK HOME TO MAKE MORE OF THE DRUG



HELLO? FROM NEW YORK?


ガチャリ

YEAH... YEAH... YES SIR

IT'S FROM NEW YORK HEADQUARTERS

WHAT DID THEY WANT?
IT'S NOT ABOUT YOU. IT'S SOME-THING ELSE.

DID H.Q. ASK ABOUT US?
NO

YES.... THE WORLD WAR IS ABOUT TO BEGIN
SERIOUSLY? WE'RE CARRYING OUT THE PLAN TOMORROW?

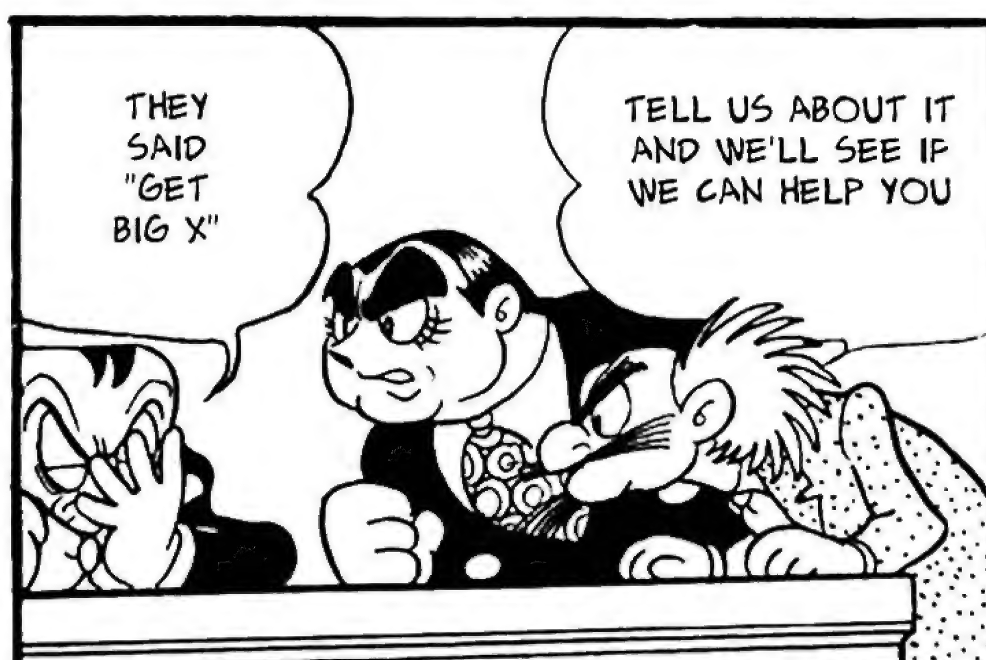
WAH.. WHAT??

WE'VE DECIDED TO DO IT TOMORROW


AND IF THE ORDER ISN'T COMPLETED, THEY WON'T LET US ON THE ROCKET.


THE NEW YORK H.Q. HAS GIVEN THE JAPANESE BRANCH HERE AN OUTRAGEOUS ORDER...
THAT'S FINE! BEFORE IT STARTS, I'M GONNA JUMP ON THE FIRST ROCKET OUT OF HERE.




THEY SAID "GET BIG X"
TELL US ABOUT IT AND WE'LL SEE IF WE CAN HELP YOU

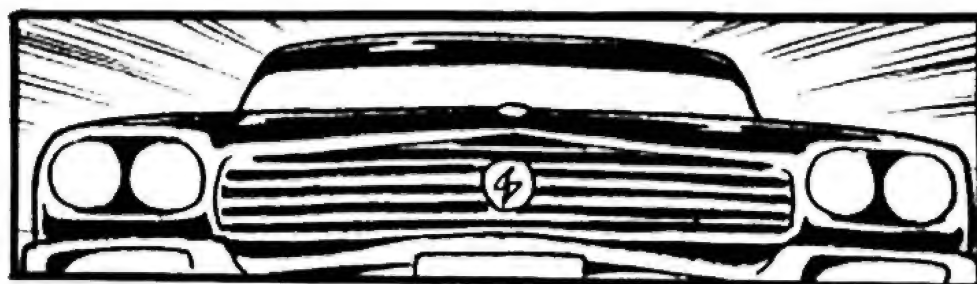

WHAT IS THE ORDER?




NO! THERE'S NO WAY!


LET'S GET STARTED
IT HAS TO BE DONE. EVEN IF IT SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE. THAT'S THE RULE OF THE CROSS PARTY












LAAA LA
LALA LA
LA LAAA

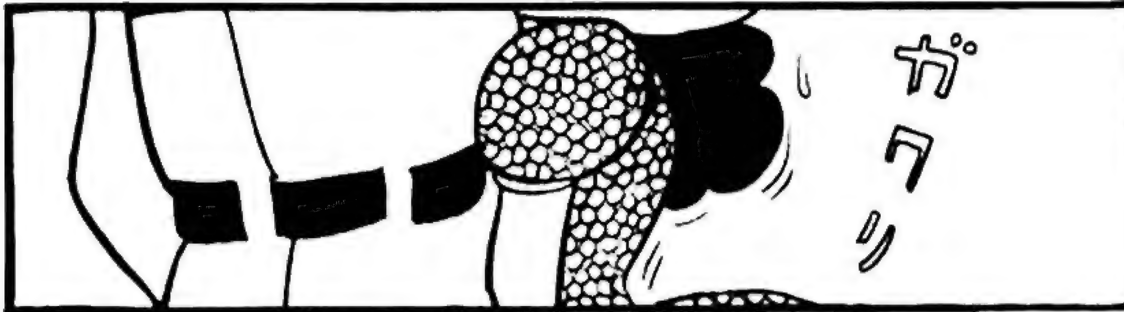

MMMMFF!


OH!
WHO'S THERE?

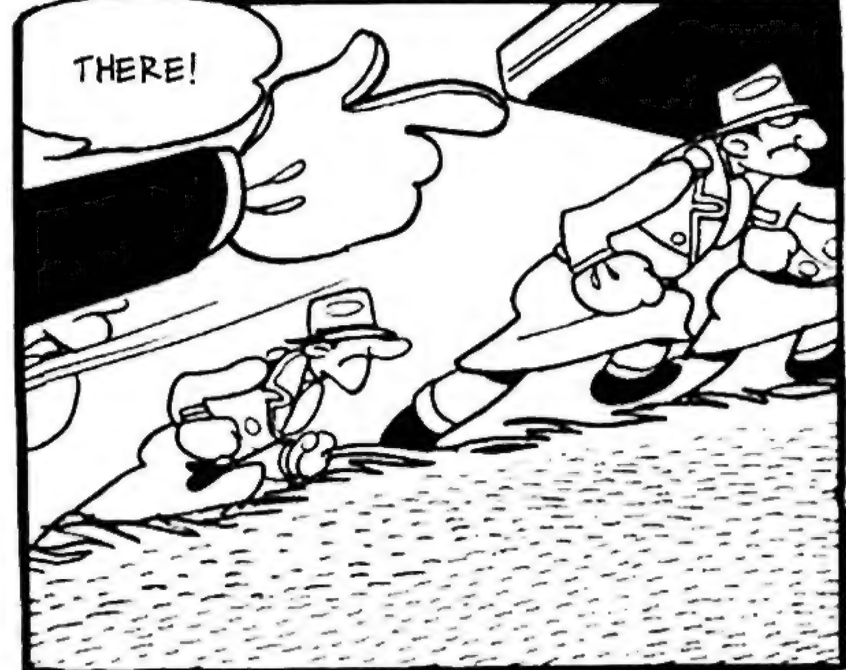

THAT'S ODD, WHY CAN'T I HEAR THE BIRDS?


MMMM!
MMMFF
MMMF!


CAREFUL! SHE'S THE TELEPATHIC GIRL. IT'S SAFER IF WE KNOCK HER OUT.


ガクッ

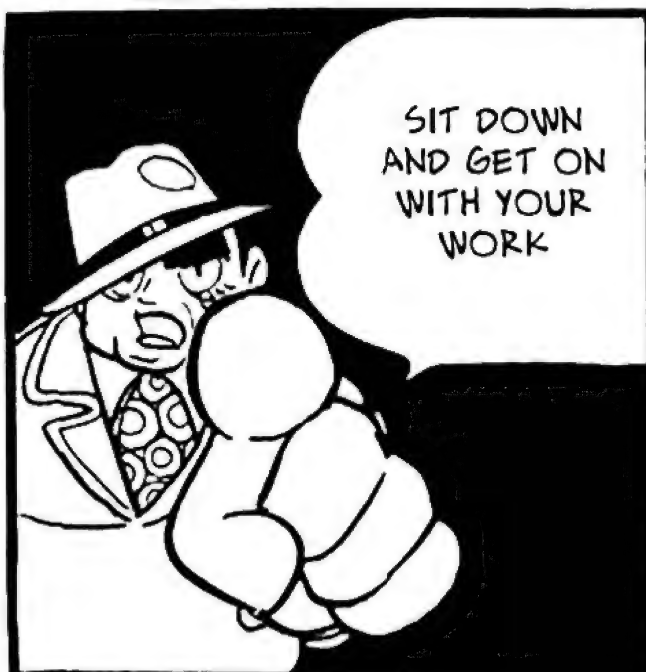

NINA... WHERE ARE YOU? WE SHOULD GET TO WORK NOW


THERE!


WHAT? WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN JAPAN?
NEVER THOUGHT I'D SEE YOU AGAIN....AND WHY ARE YOU HERE?


EVEN WITHOUT NINA YOU CAN KEEP ON WITH YOUR WORK


DON'T YOU WORRY ABOUT IT


SIT DOWN AND GET ON WITH YOUR WORK


SIT ....

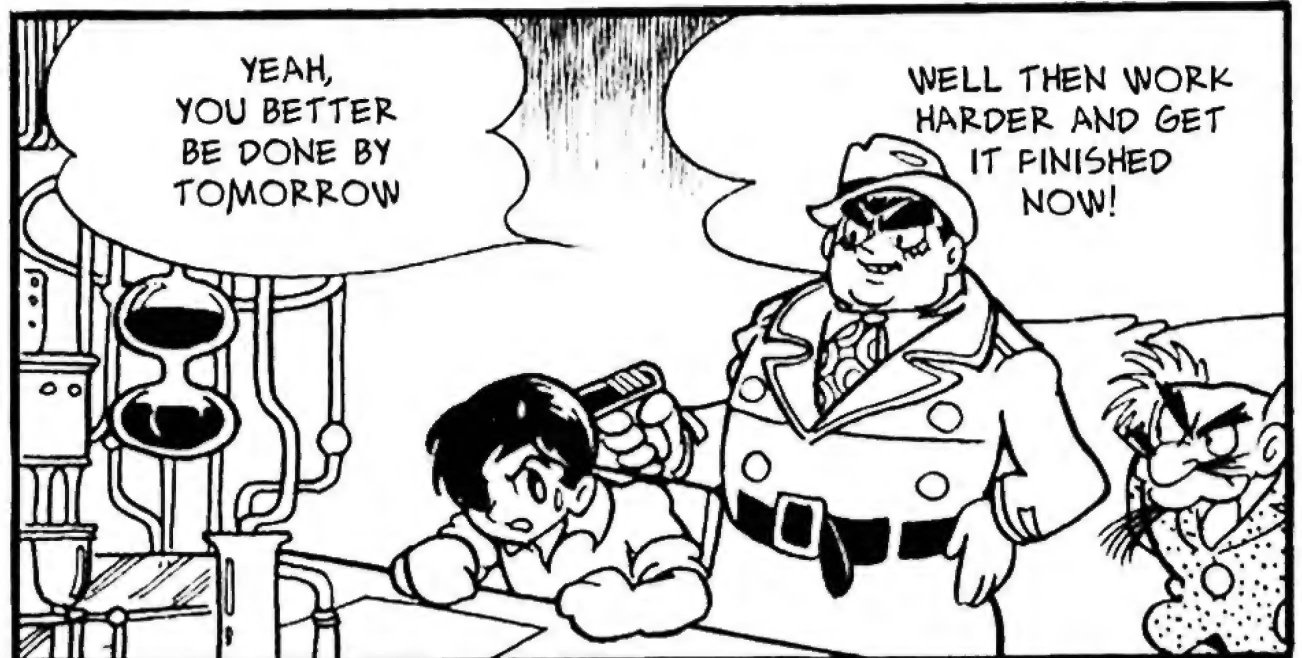

HMM. PRETTY COOL LAB YOU HAVE HERE.

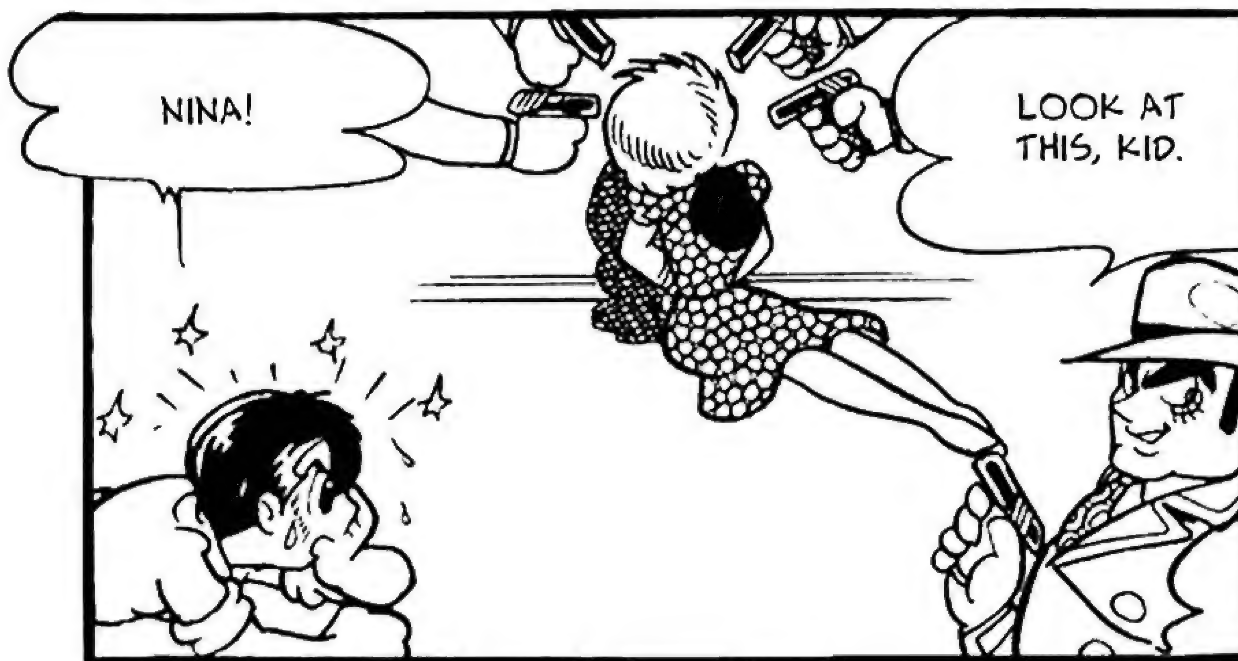

OH! THAT! HEHEHEH WELL, WE HAVEN'T MADE IT BEFORE AND UNFORTUNATELY IT'S NOT FINISHED YET


BIG X!!


WHAT WORK ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?


I CAN'T DO THAT! WE'RE NOT BAKING A CAKE HERE!

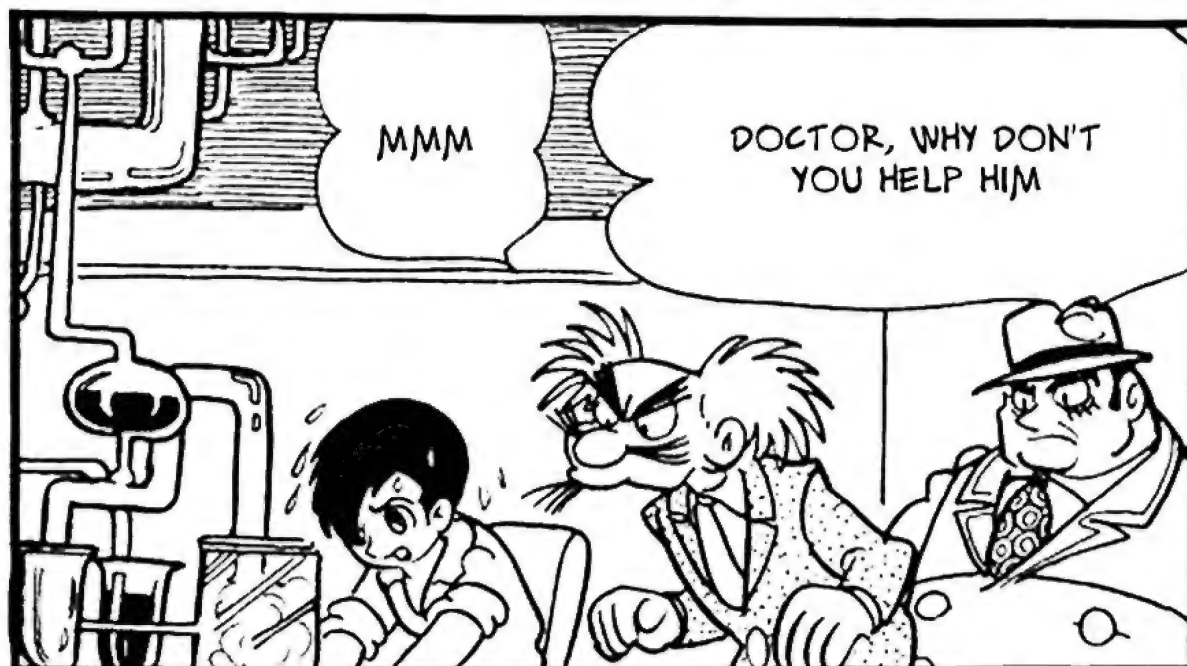

WELL THEN WORK HARDER AND GET IT FINISHED NOW!
YEAH, YOU BETTER BE DONE BY TOMORROW


LOOK AT THIS, KID.
NINA!




WHAT THE... HOW DARE YOU THREATEN NINA ....


IF IT'S NOT FINISHED BY TOMORROW, SHE'S GONNA BE FLYING AWAY TO HEAVEN.

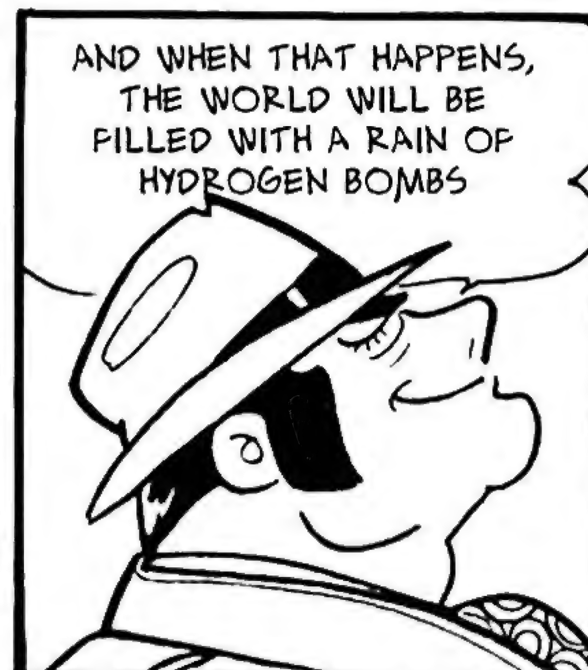

MMM
DOCTOR, WHY DON'T YOU HELP HIM


IF YOU DON'T WANT THAT TO HAPPEN, THEN YOU BETTER GET BUSY.


HUH?


LOOK, I KNOW YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THIS .....
THE U.S. AND SOVIET UNION ARE GOING TO START A WAR TOMORROW AT MIDNIGHT

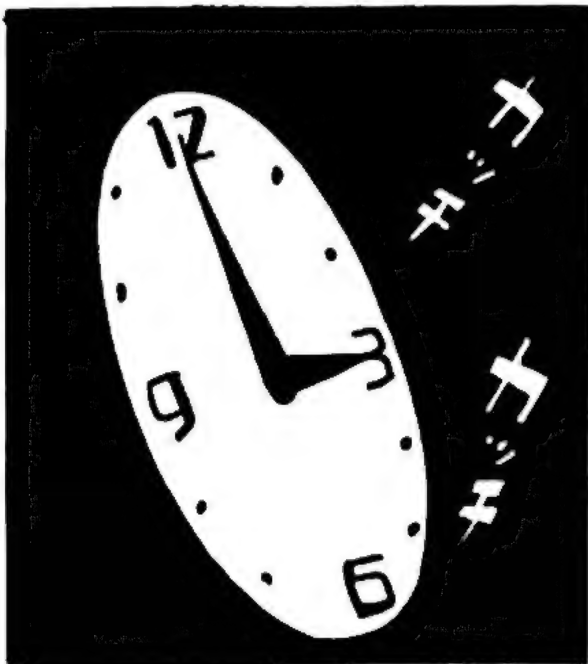

WE HAVE TO GET OFF OF THE PLANET BEFORE THEN. AND OF COURSE WE HAVE TO GET AHOLD OF THE BIG X DRUG


AND WHEN THAT HAPPENS, THE WORLD WILL BE FILLED WITH A RAIN OF HYDROGEN BOMBS




ALL OF MY WORST FEARS ARE COMING TRUE


A WAR STARTING AT MIDNIGHT TOMORROW? NO!!

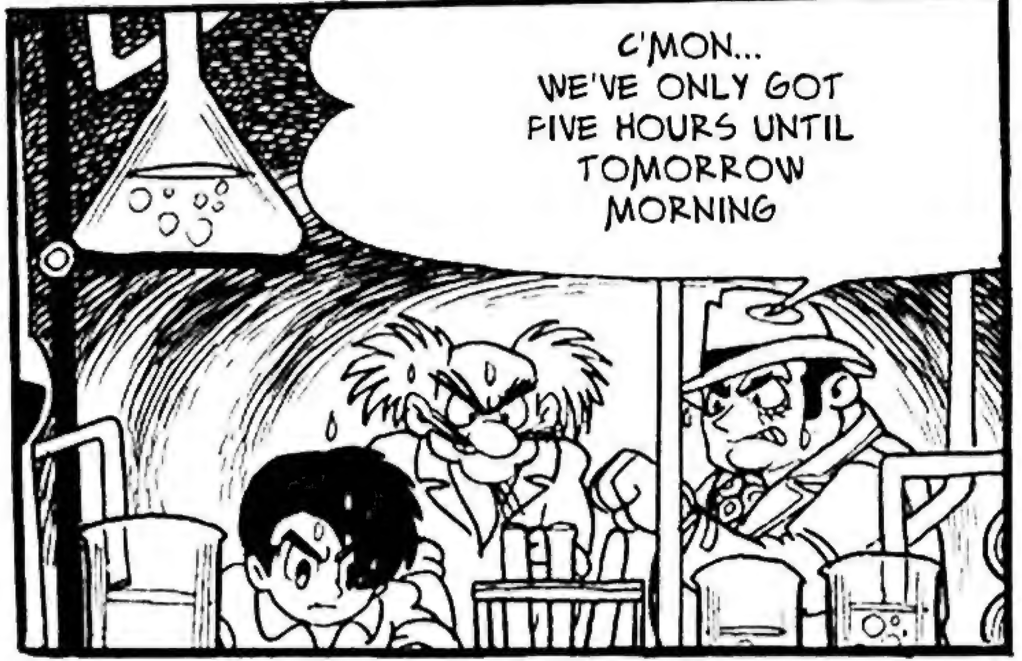

カッチ
カッチ






HERE YOU GO... WATER!


I NEED A DRINK OF WATER


C'MON... WE'VE ONLY GOT FIVE HOURS UNTIL TOMORROW MORNING

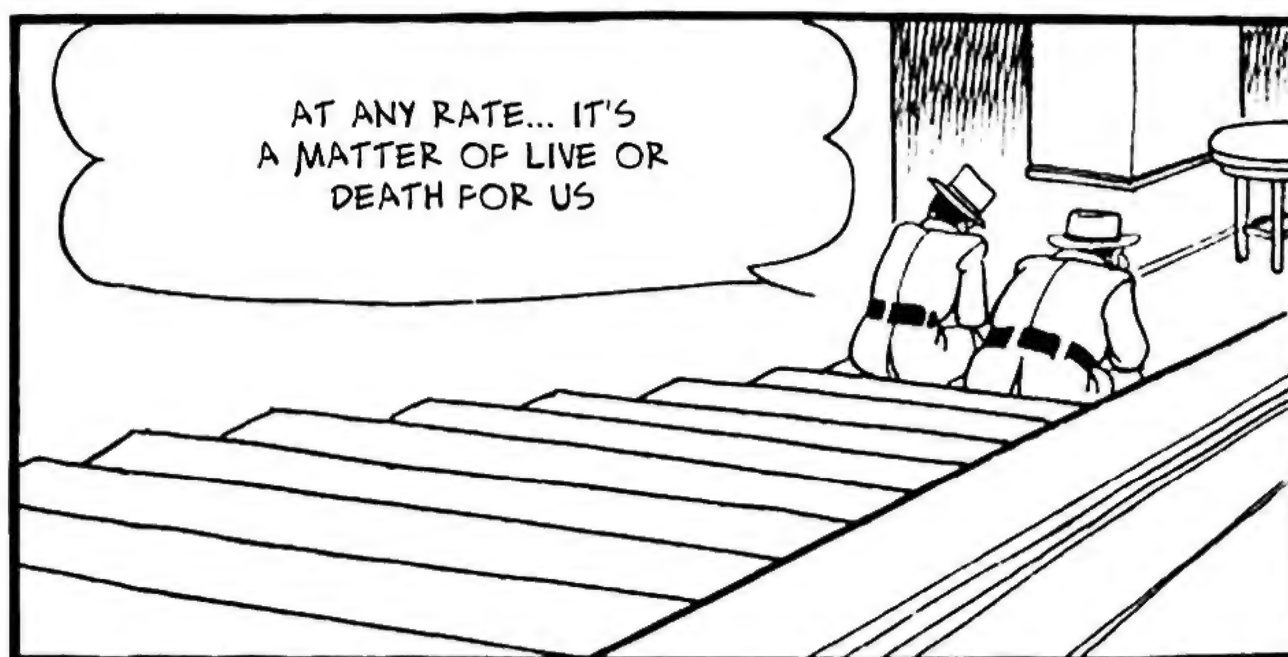



DON'T SLOW DOWN SO MUCH!


WELL, THEN WE WON'T BE ABLE TO GET ON THE ROCKET

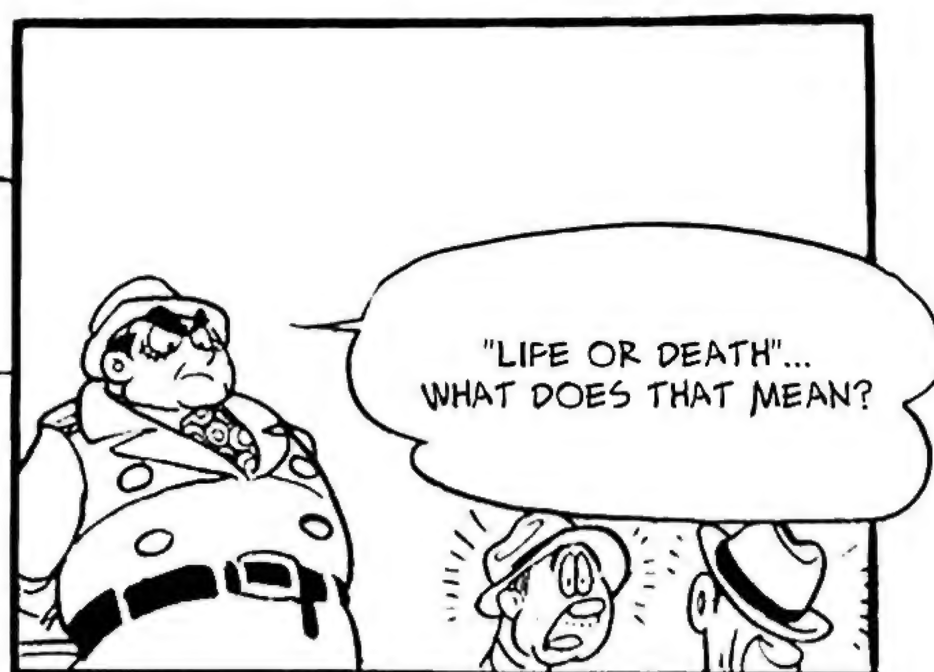

MAYBE THEY CAN'T MAKE THE BIG X DRUG


THIS IS GONNA TAKE FOREVER... AND IT'S ALMOST DAWN


AT ANY RATE... IT'S A MATTER OF LIVE OR DEATH FOR US

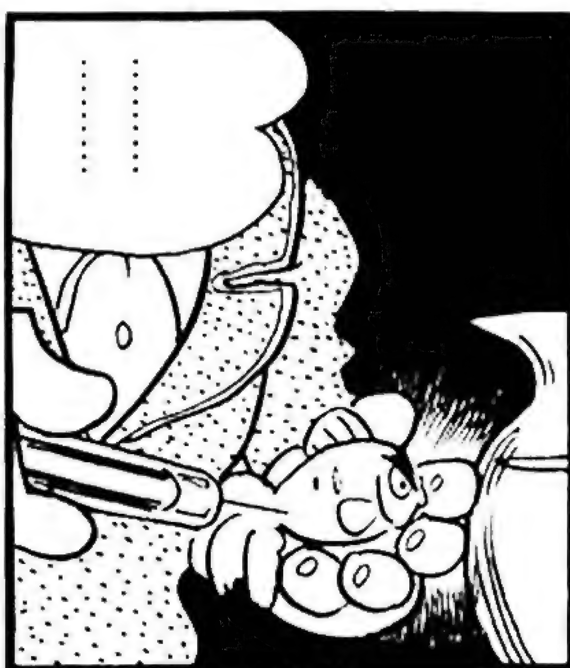

JUST THINKING ABOUT IT GIVES ME THE CREEPS

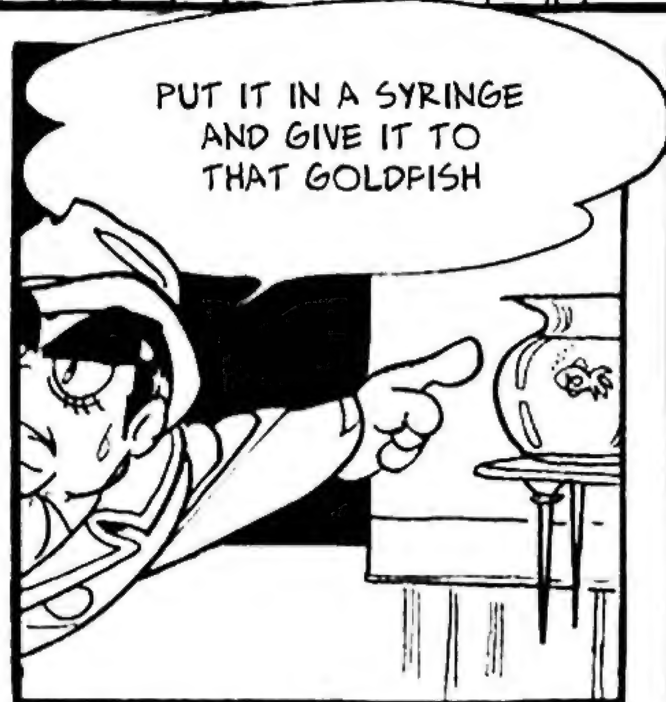

DON'T TALK NONSENSE


"LIFE OR DEATH"... WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

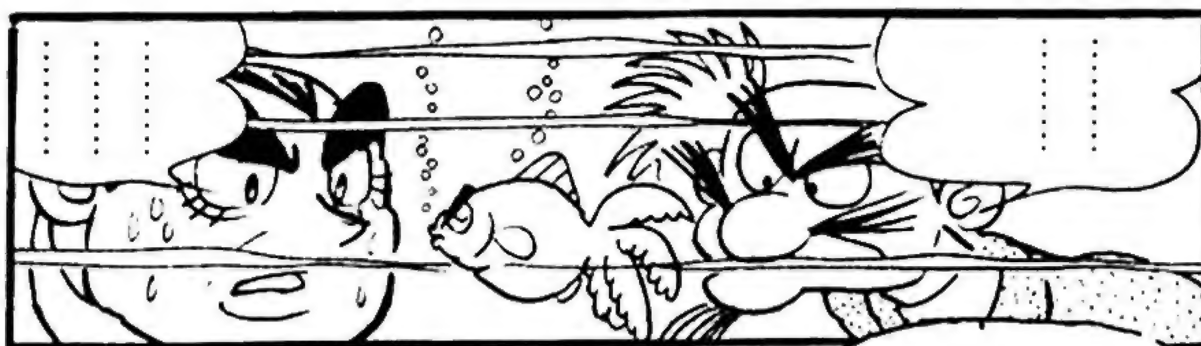

I'M NOT COMPLETELY SURE YET, BUT WE'VE DONE ALL WE CAN DO.
HEHE
WOW! IT'S DONE?


COMMANDER CHECK IT OUT!

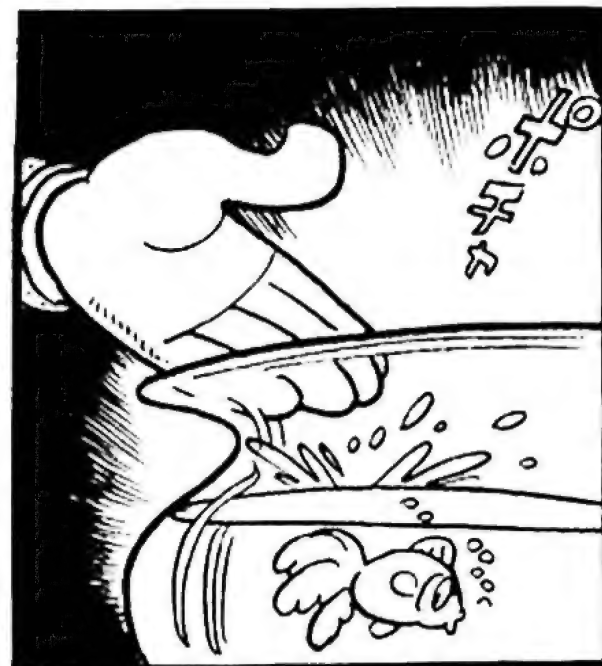

......
......


PUT IT IN A SYRINGE AND GIVE IT TO THAT GOLDFISH


THIS IS IT




DAMN...
THIS ONE'S STILL GOT NO EFFECT



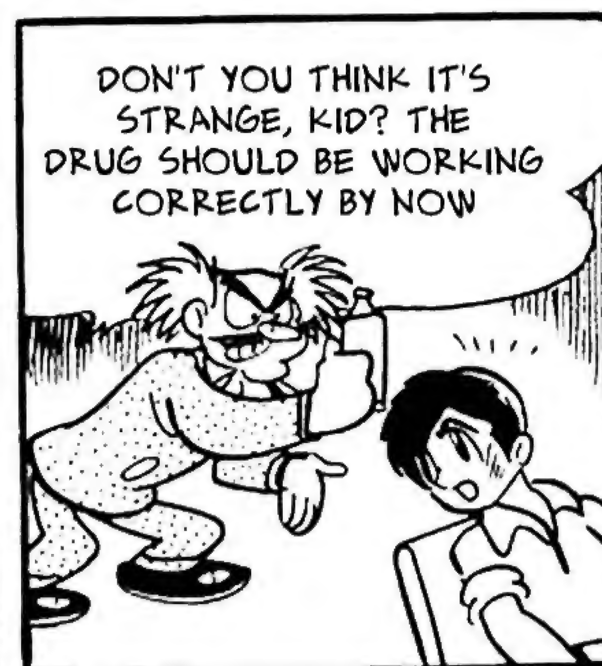

I MADE SURE THE INJECTION THE OLD GUY HAS DOESN'T WORK

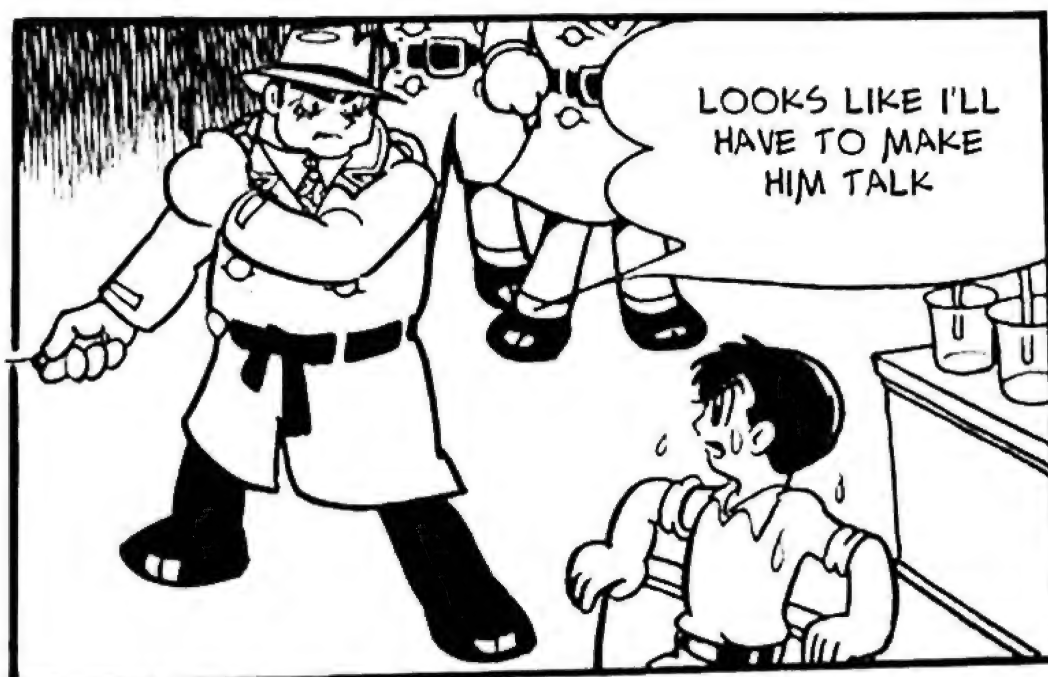

DOCTOR, YOU'LL HAVE TO DO MORE RESEARCH


ACCORDING TO THE CHEMICAL FORMULA THIS SHOULD HAVE BEEN THE FINAL PRODUCT

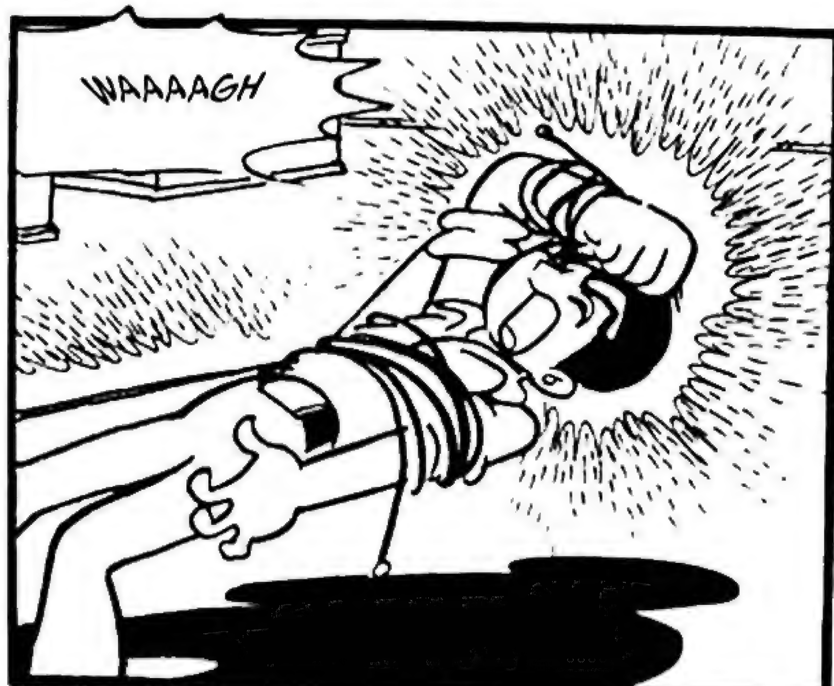

I TOLD YOU SHE'S GONNA DIE IF THE DRUG WASN'T READY BY MORNING!

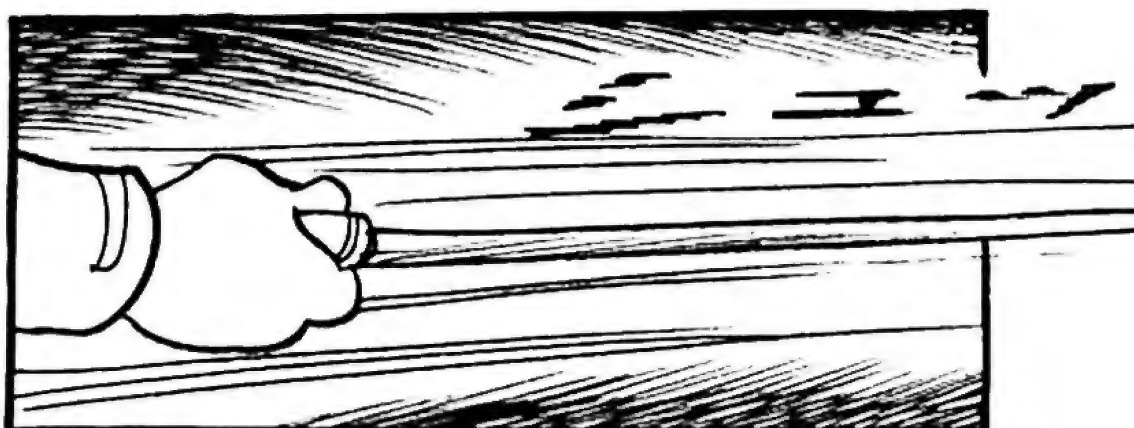

WHAT ARE YOU UP TO KID?


DON'T YOU THINK IT'S STRANGE, KID? THE DRUG SHOULD BE WORKING CORRECTLY BY NOW


LOOKS LIKE I'LL HAVE TO MAKE HIM TALK


SO WHAT'S GOING ON HERE, PUNK? YOU'RE HIDING SOMETHING. WHAT? IS THE DRUG REAL OR JUST A BUNCH OF HOOEY? ANSWER ME!


WAAAAGH




I'LL TELL YOU... THE SECRET OF BIG X


HAHAHA! YOU KNOW HOW TERRIBLE THIS WHIP CAN BE!


DON'T SPILL IT


GIVE ME THE BOTTLE


ALL RIGHT, GET ON WITH IT


YEAH, THE NEW VERSION WON'T WORK WHEN INJECTED


BUT I GAVE THE FISH A SHOT AND IT DIDN'T WORK
I'VE ALREADY PERFECTED THIS DRUG





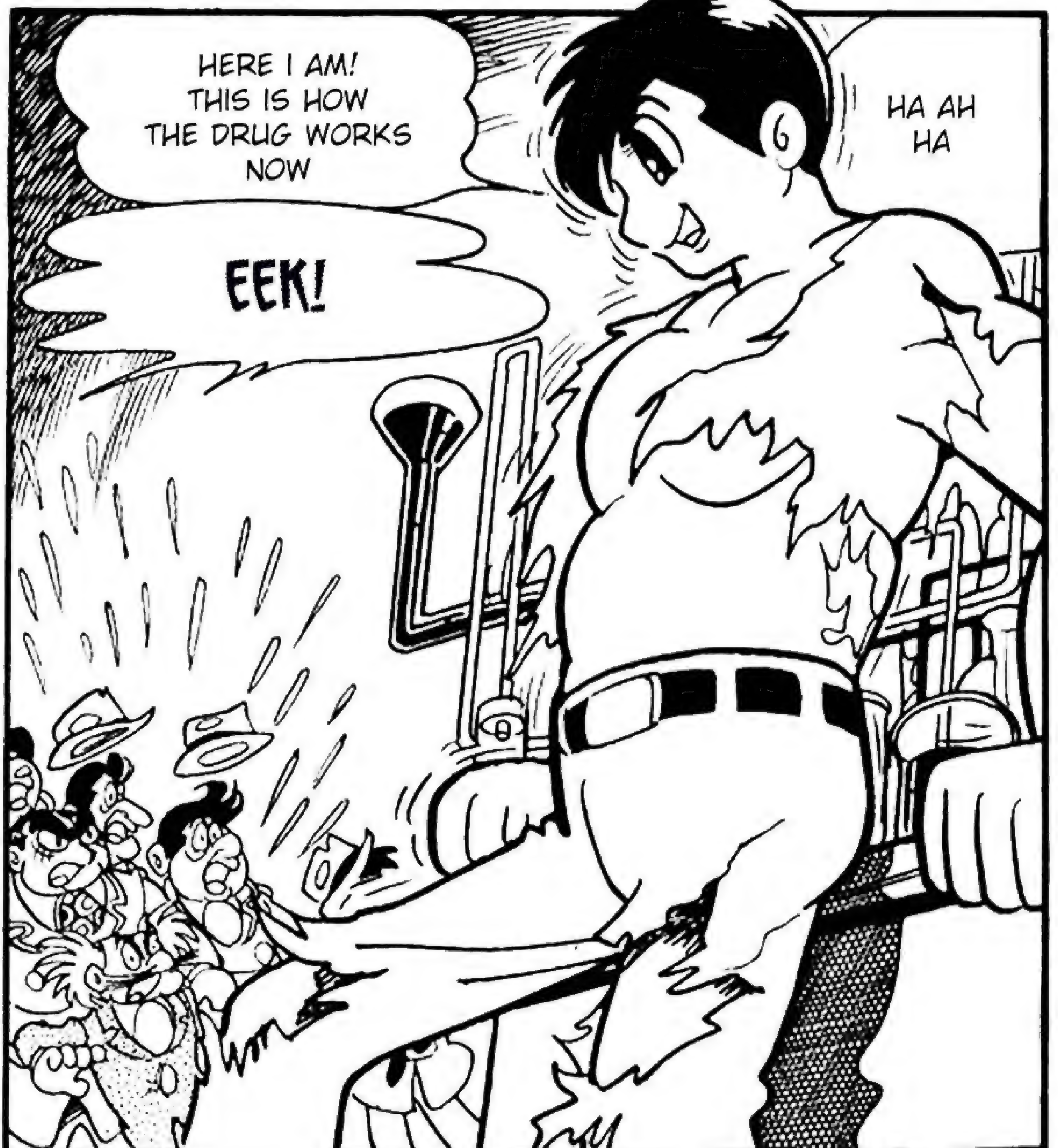

WATCH THIS... I'M GOING TO TAKE IT RIGHT NOW!


WHAT?


WAAH
PING
I'M ALREADY GETTING STRONGER, SEE?
POK

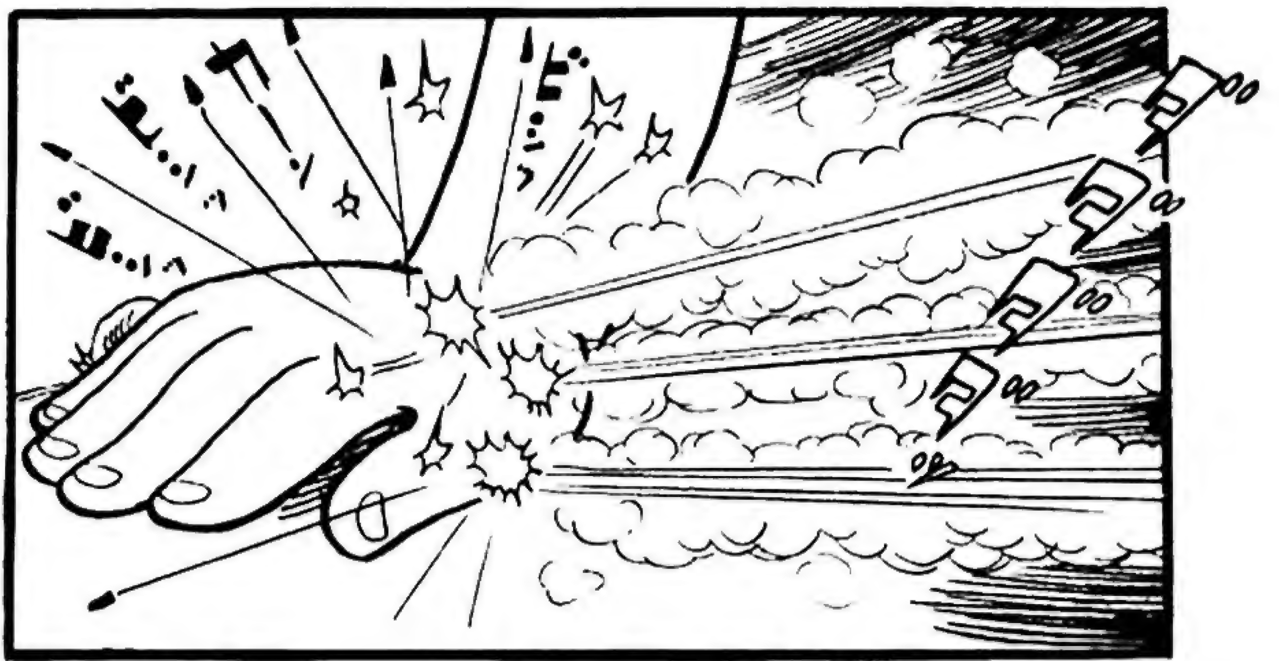

DOESN'T TASTE TOO BAD, AND IT'S GREAT FOR THE CELLS


I'LL SHOOT HER!

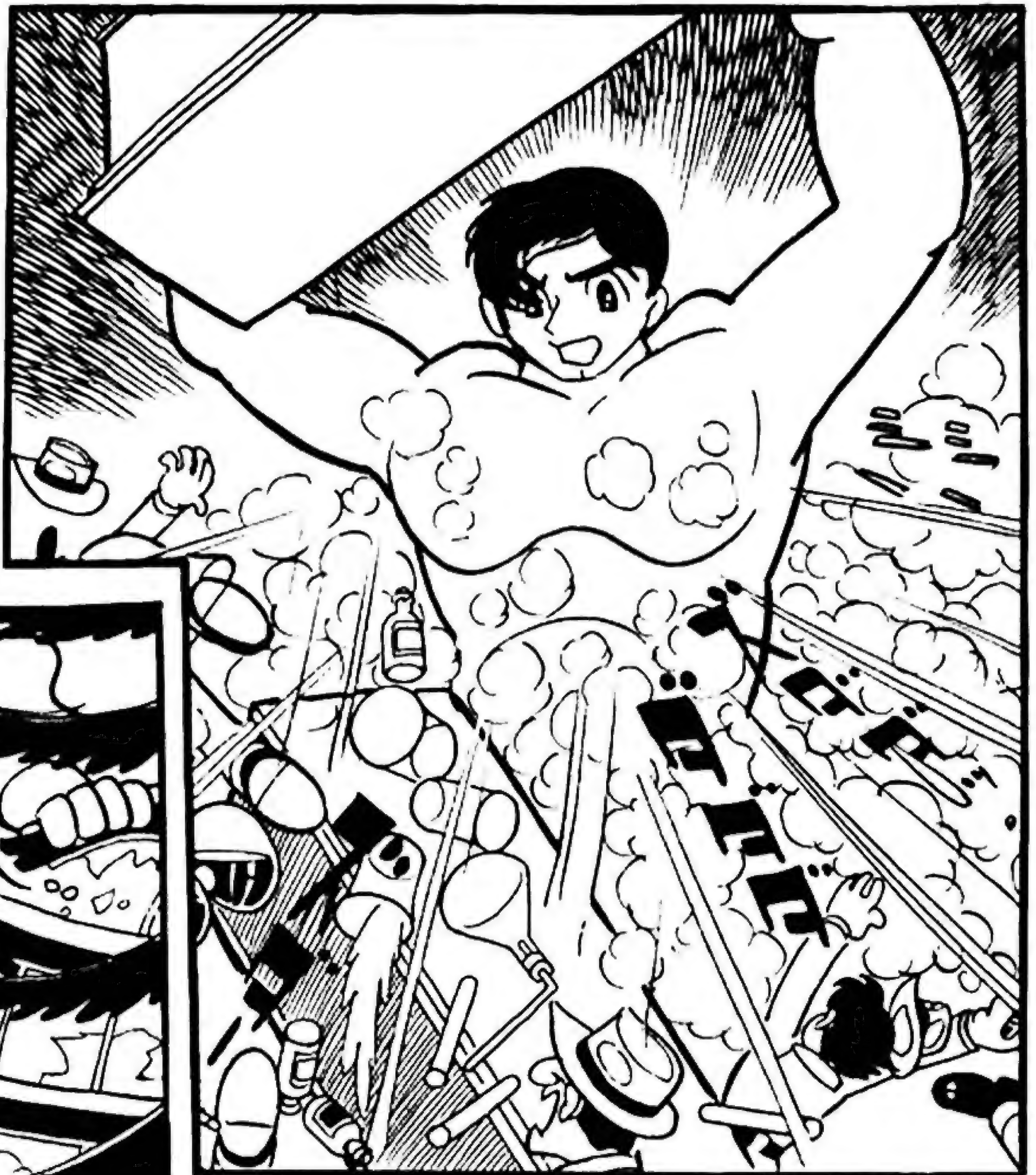

HERE I AM! THIS IS HOW THE DRUG WORKS NOW
HA AH HA
EEK!

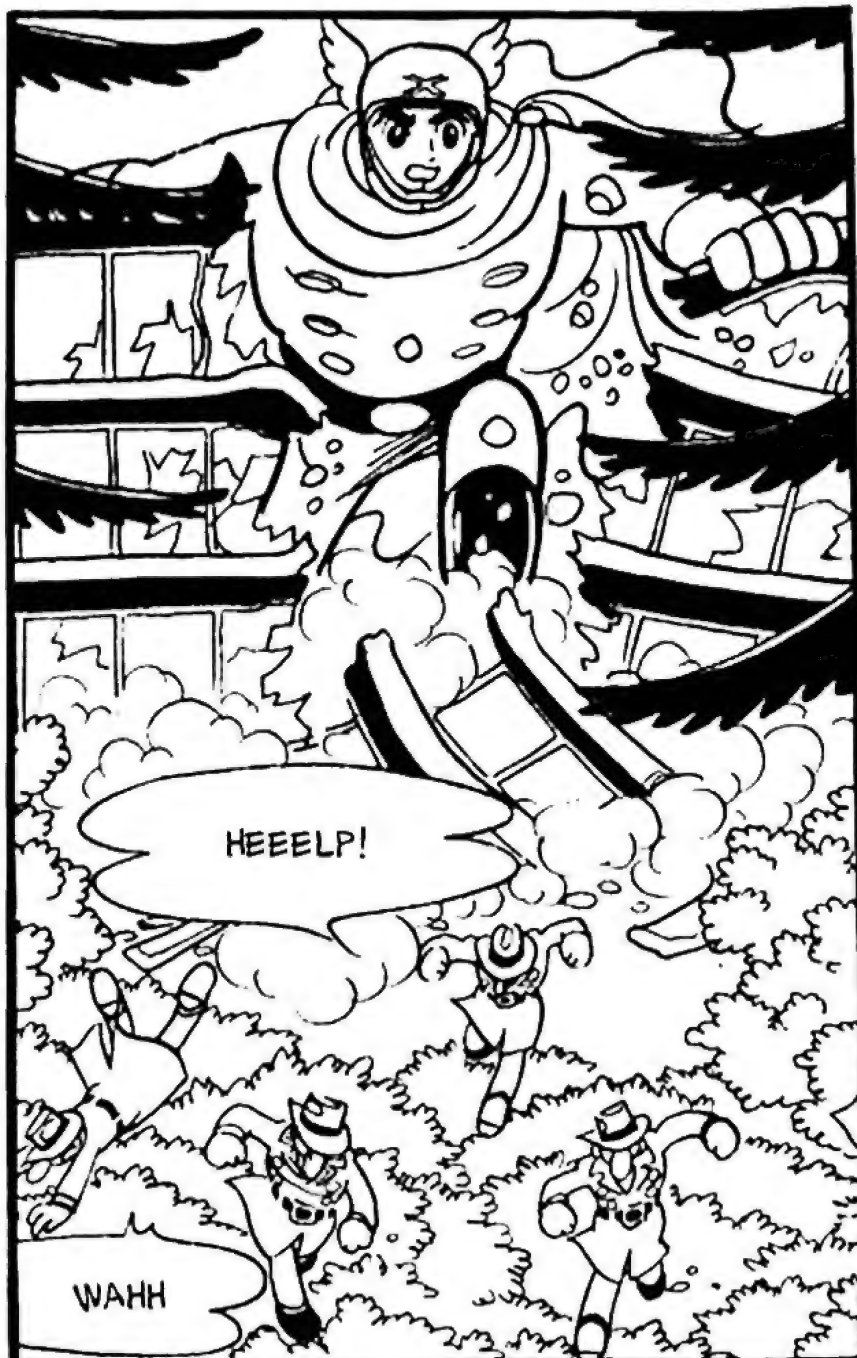



HOW DARE THESE EVIL CREEPS DO THIS TO NINA?

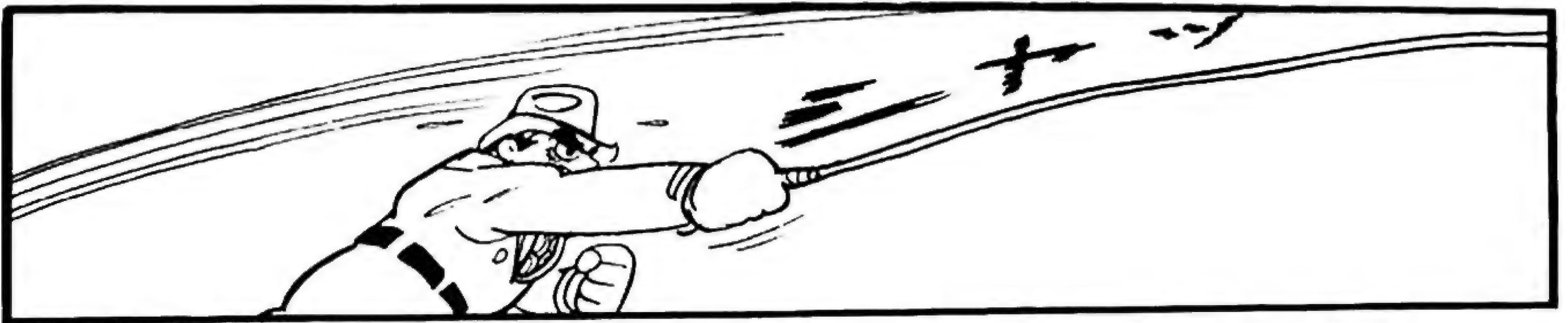


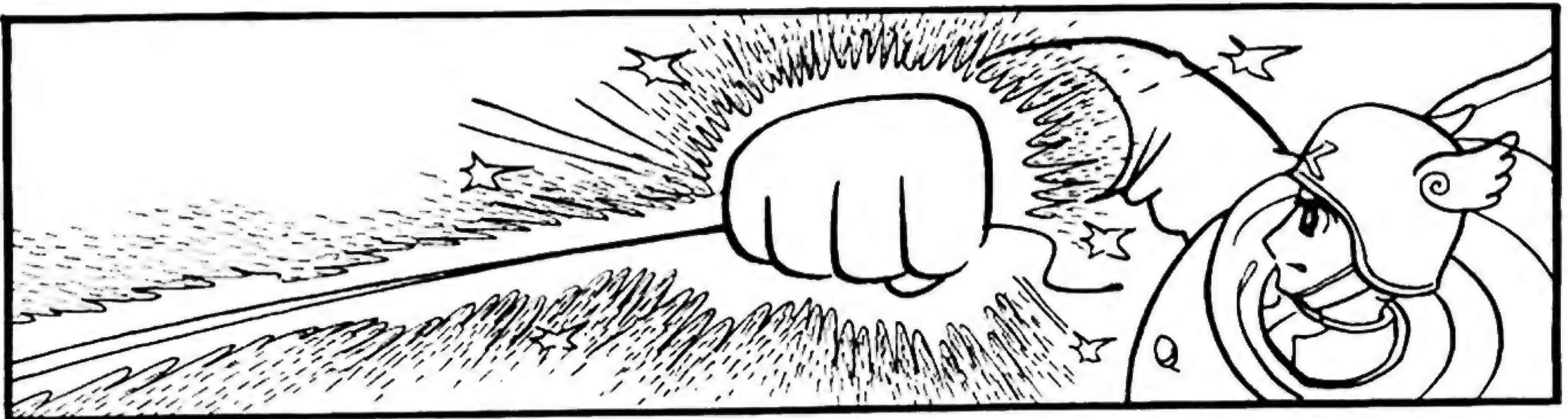


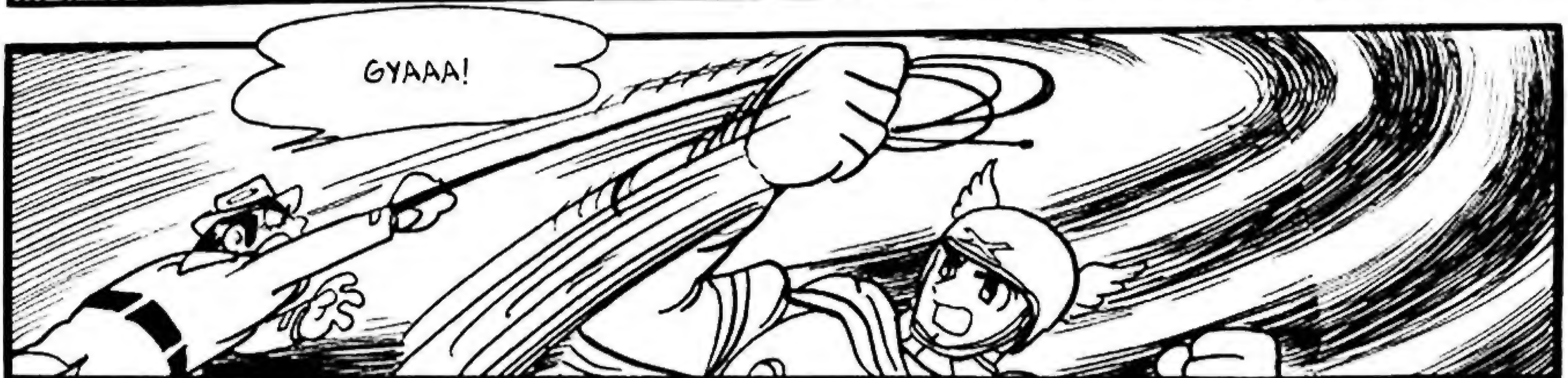


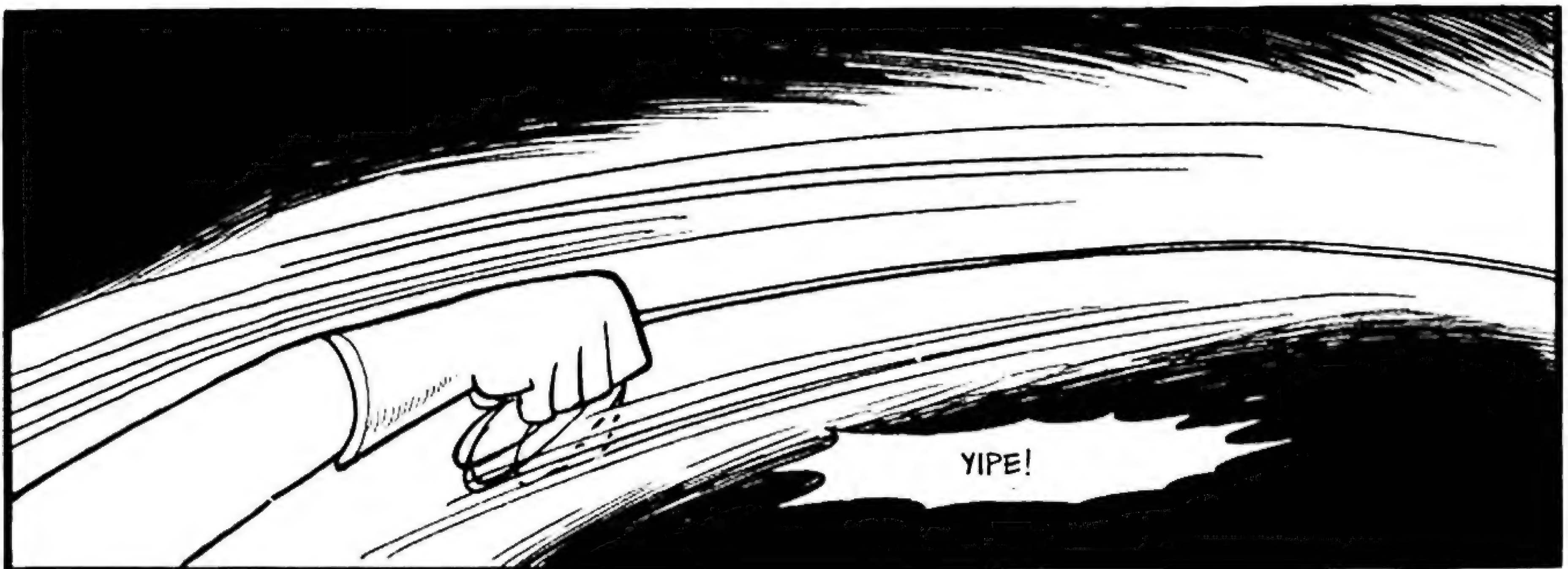

HEEELP!
WAHH

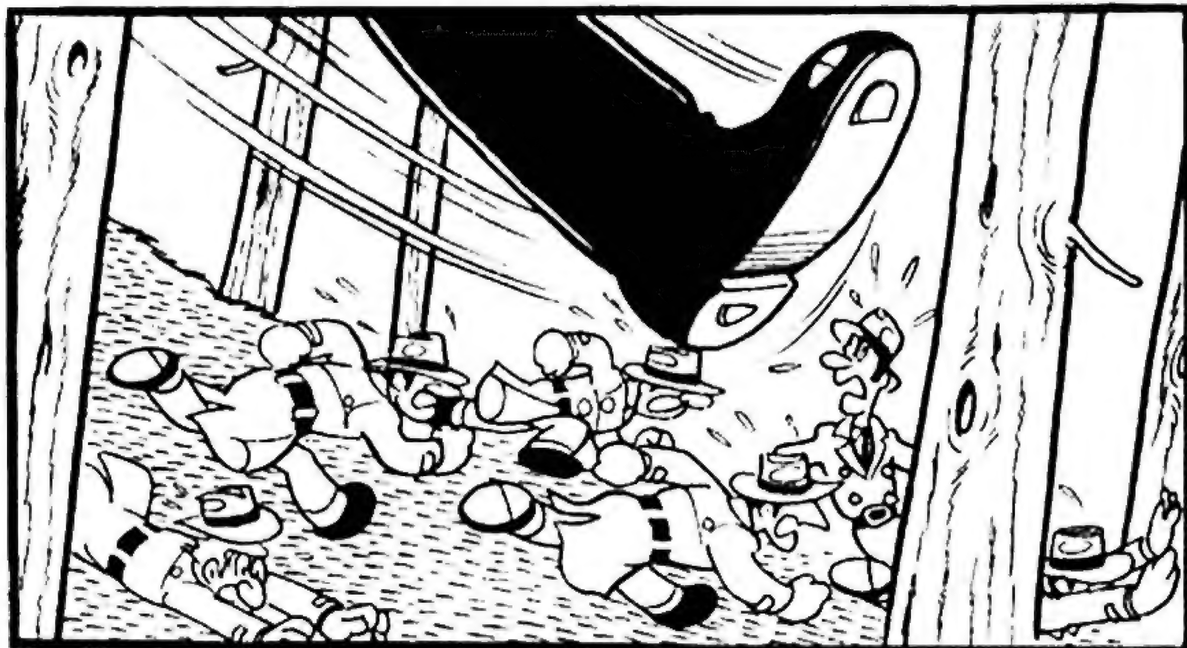

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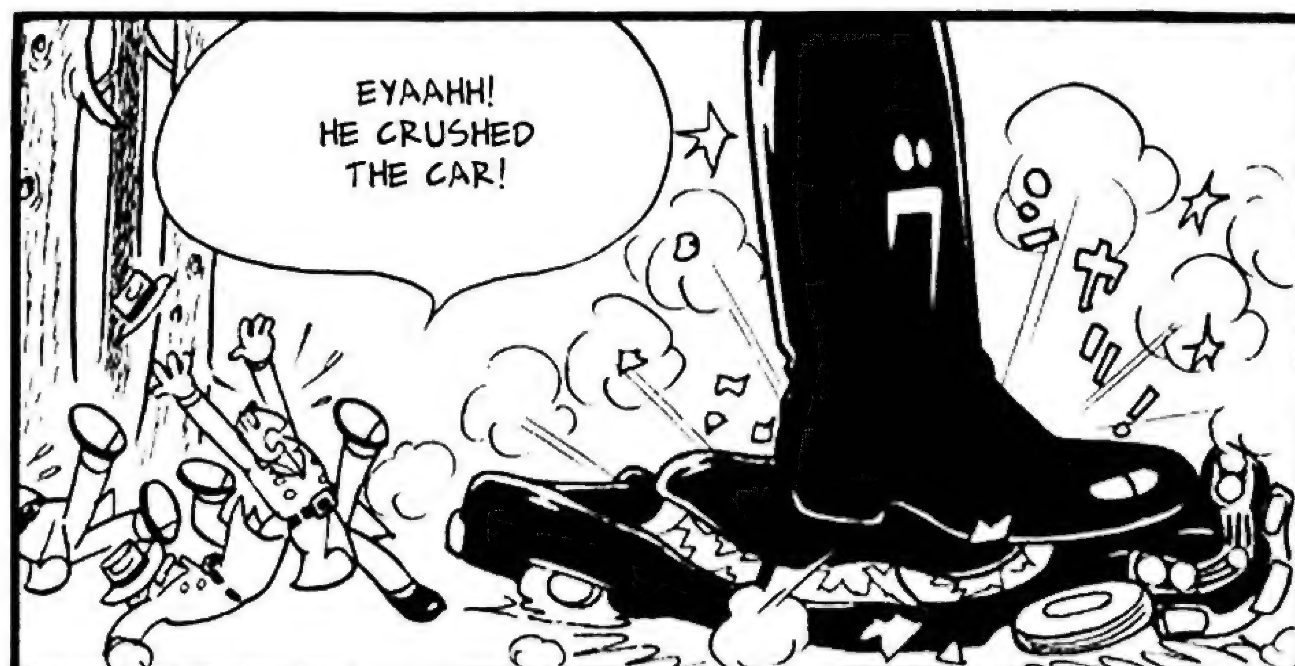

GYAAA!


YIPE!






EEP

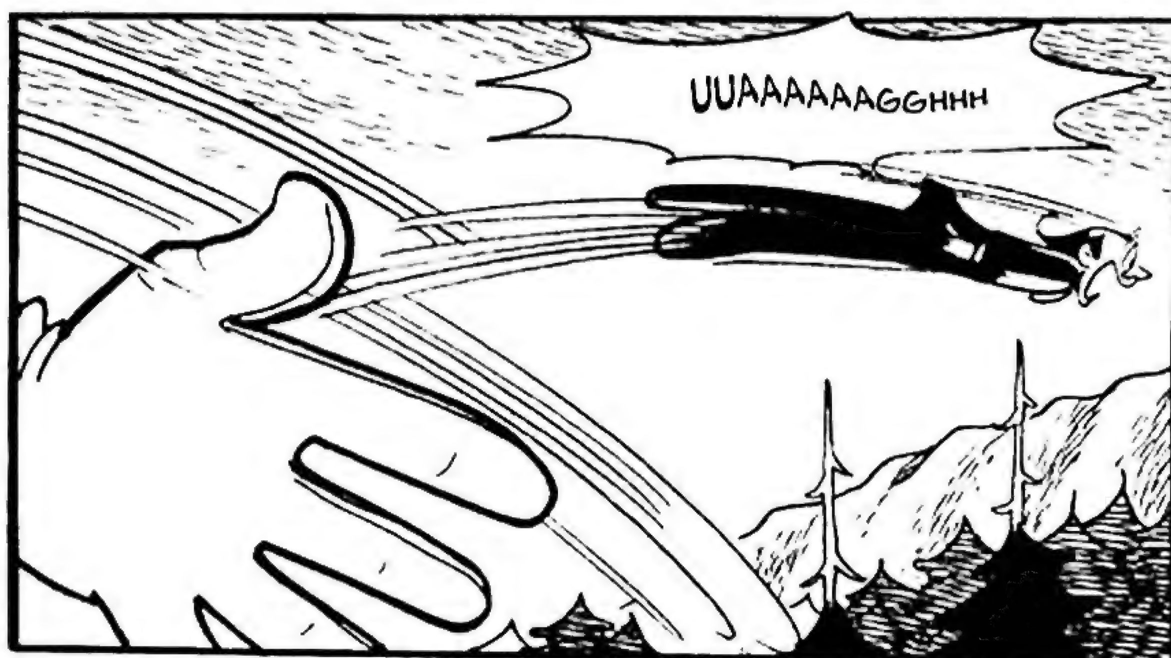

EYAAHH!
HE CRUSHED THE CAR!


ANSWER ME! THE WAR STARTS TONIGHT AT MIDNIGHT DOESN'T IT?
Y-Y-YES

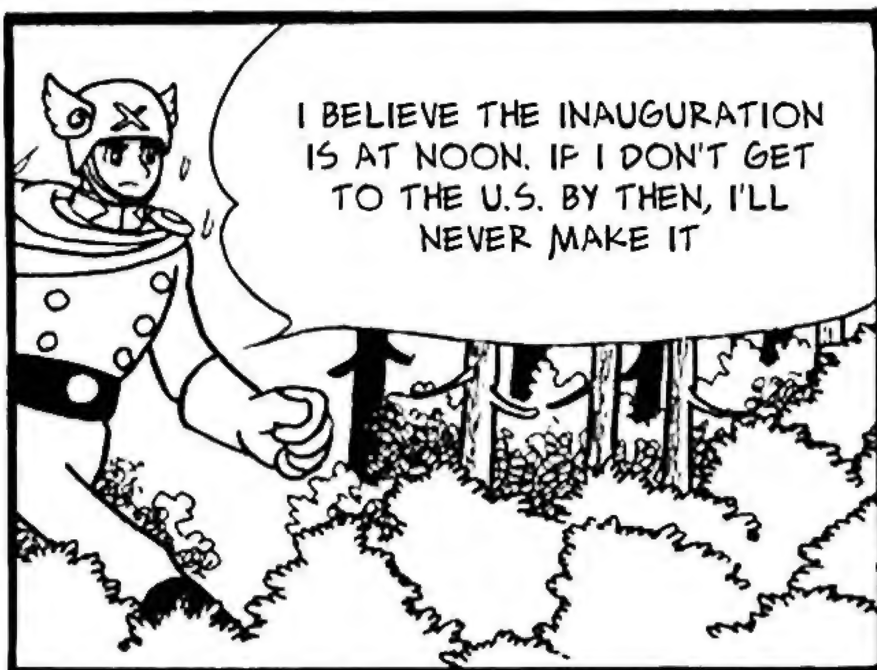


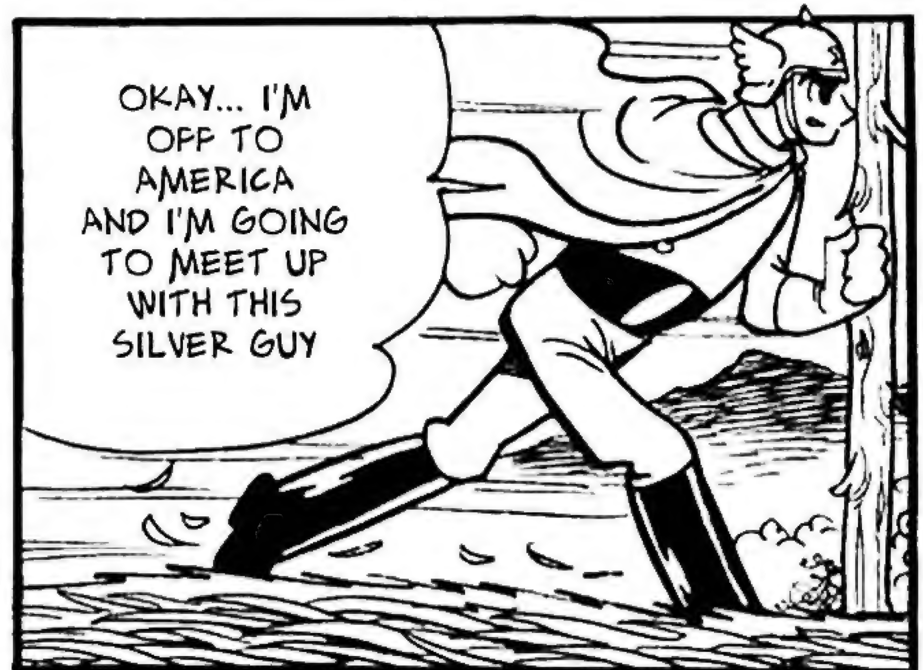

OKAY, SO ALL I HAVE TO DO IS STOP SILVER


WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING TO DO? GIVE ME THE TRUTH!
ONCE SENATOR SILVER IS ELECTED PRESIDENT, HE'LL ORDER AN ATTACK ON A SOVIET MISSILE BASE

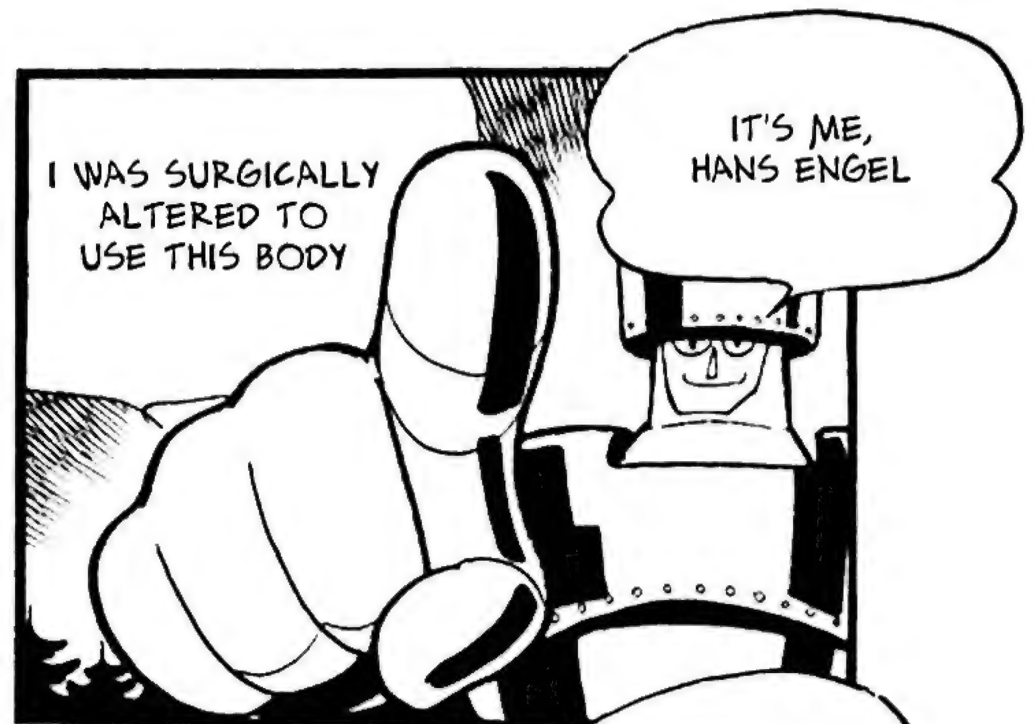

UUAAAAAAGGHHH

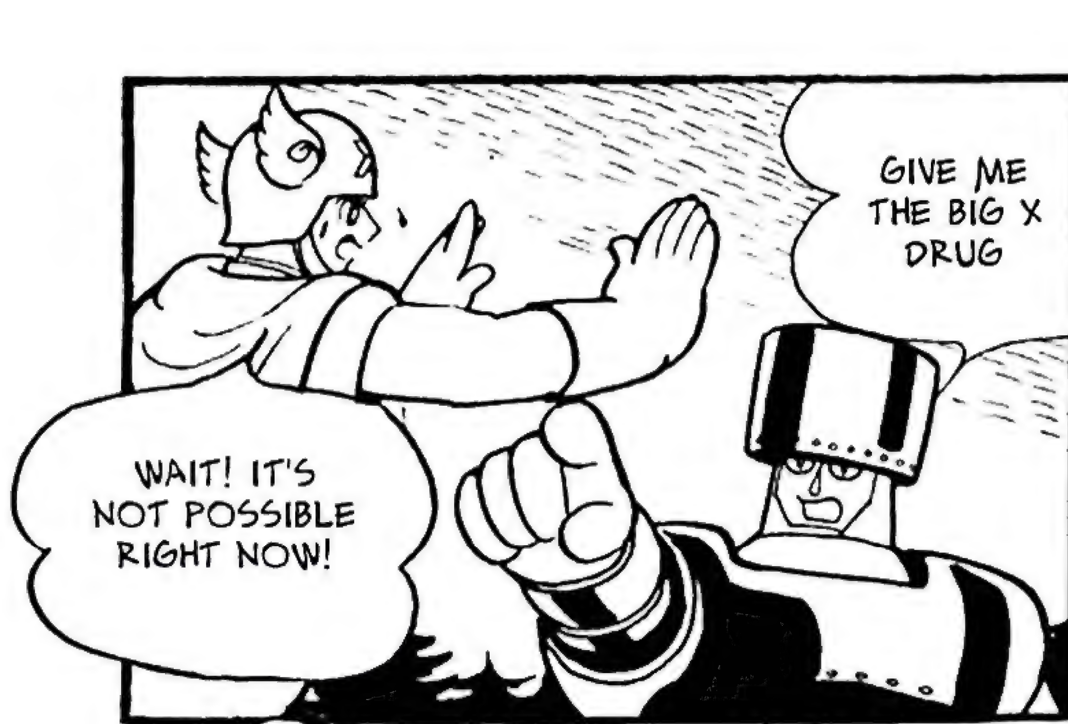

P-P-PLEASE DON'T THROW ME
GRR

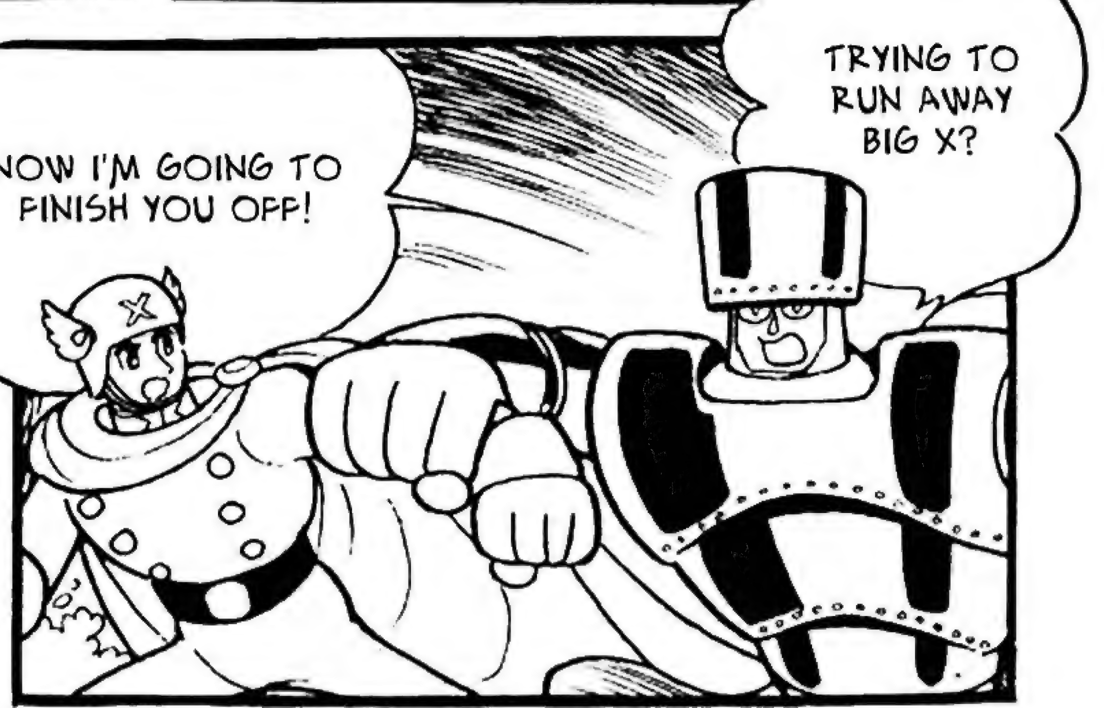




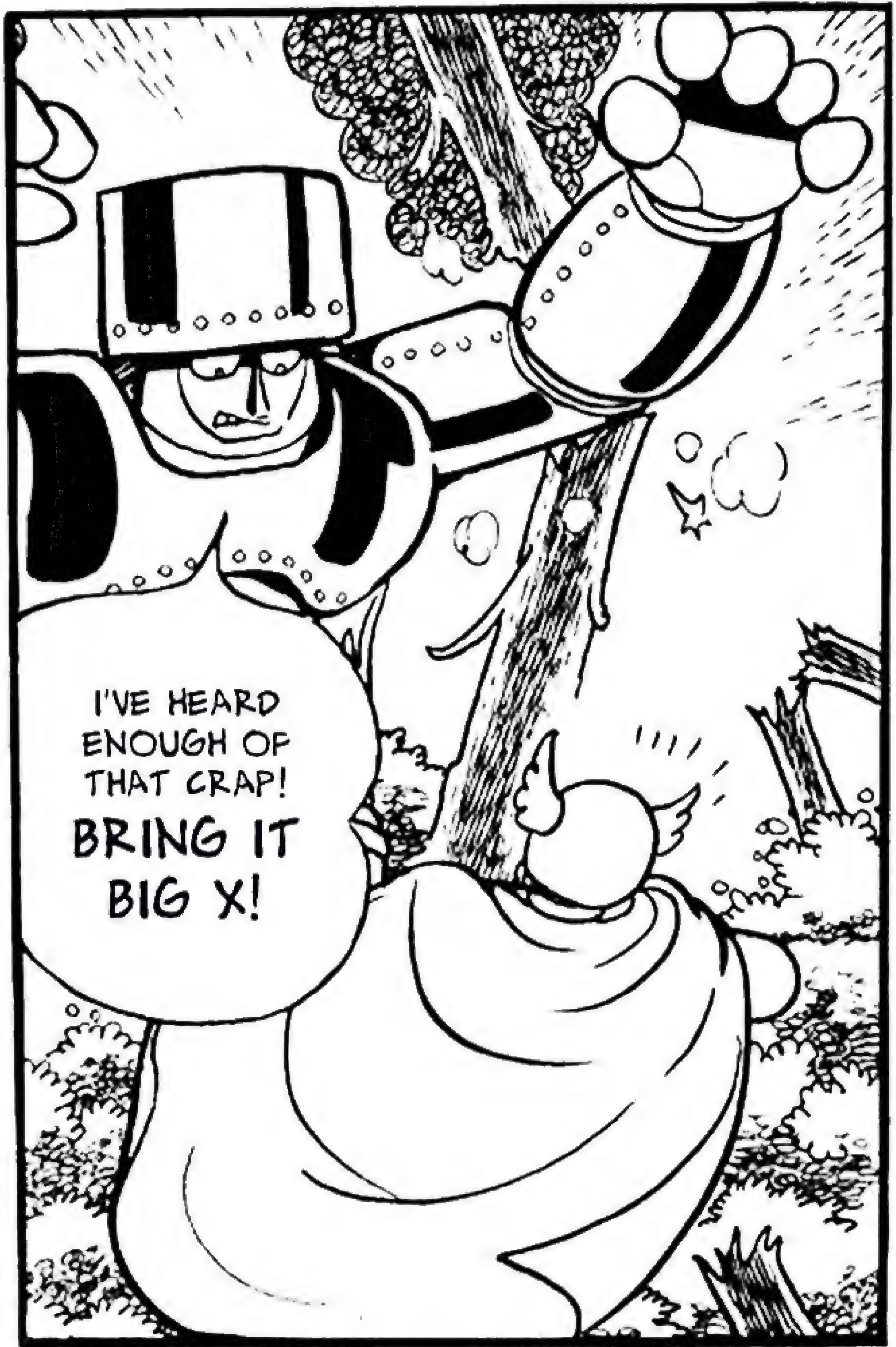
WOAH! A GIANT ROBOT! WHAT.... WHO... ARE YOU?

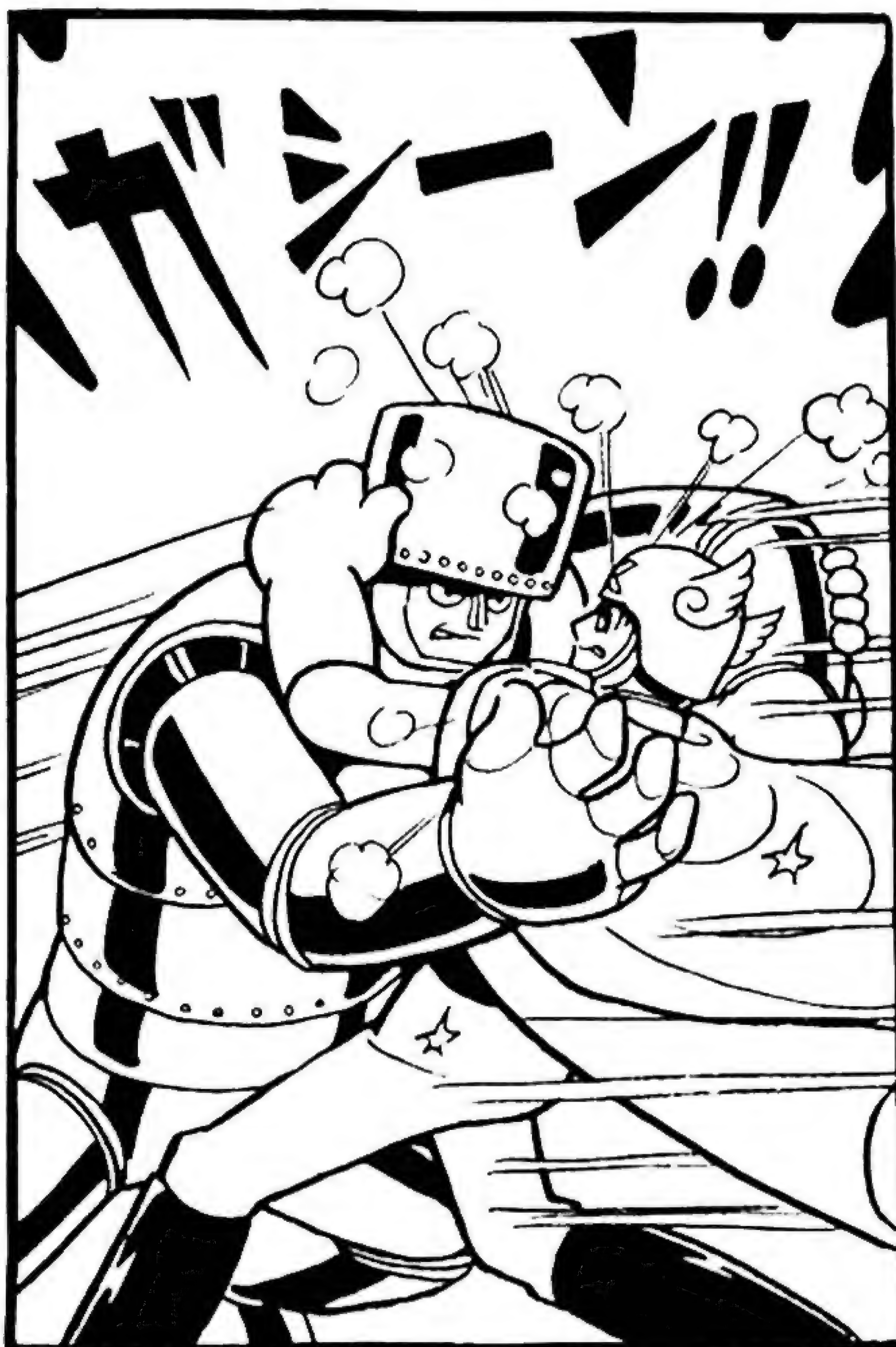

IT'S ME, HANS ENGEL
I WAS SURGICALLY ALTERED TO USE THIS BODY


GIVE ME THE BIG X DRUG
WAIT! IT'S NOT POSSIBLE RIGHT NOW!

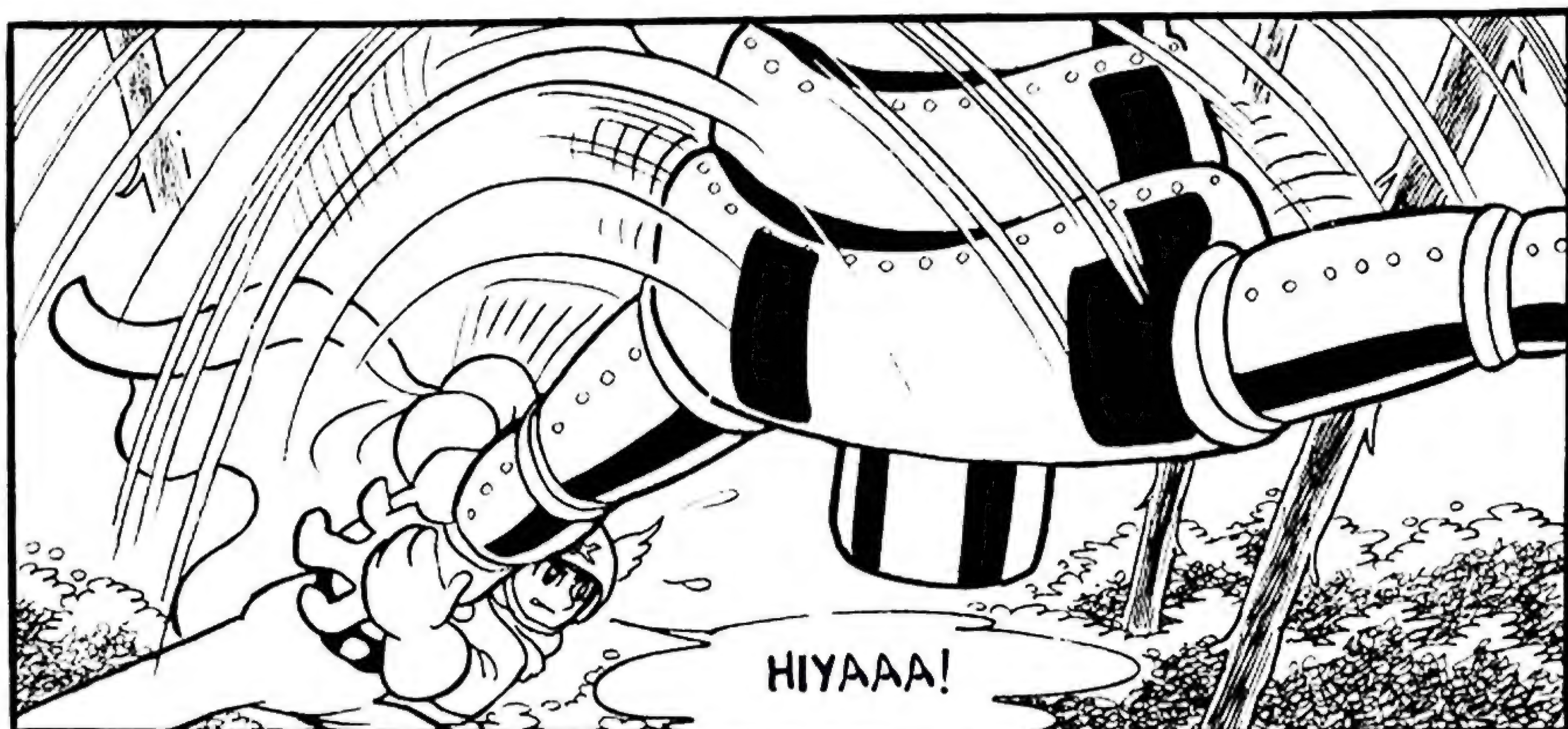

TRYING TO RUN AWAY BIG X?
NOW I'M GOING TO FINISH YOU OFF!


WHY ARE YOU IN THE WAY WHEN THE WORLD IS ABOUT TO PERISH?


I'VE HEARD ENOUGH OF THAT CRAP! **BRING IT BIG X!**

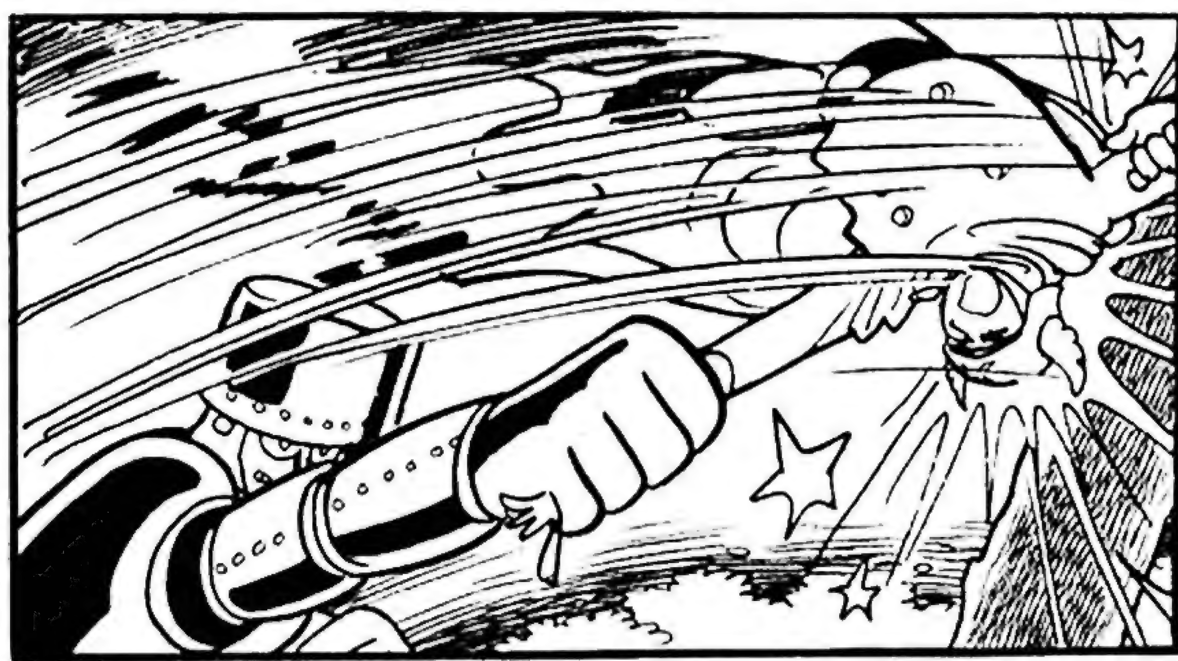

ガシーン!!




HIYAAA!

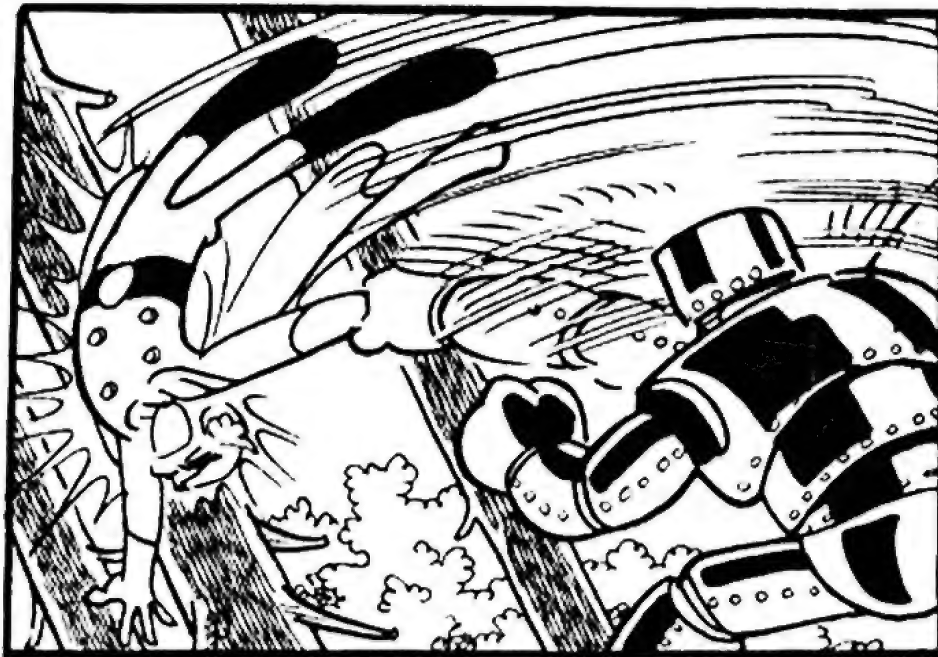
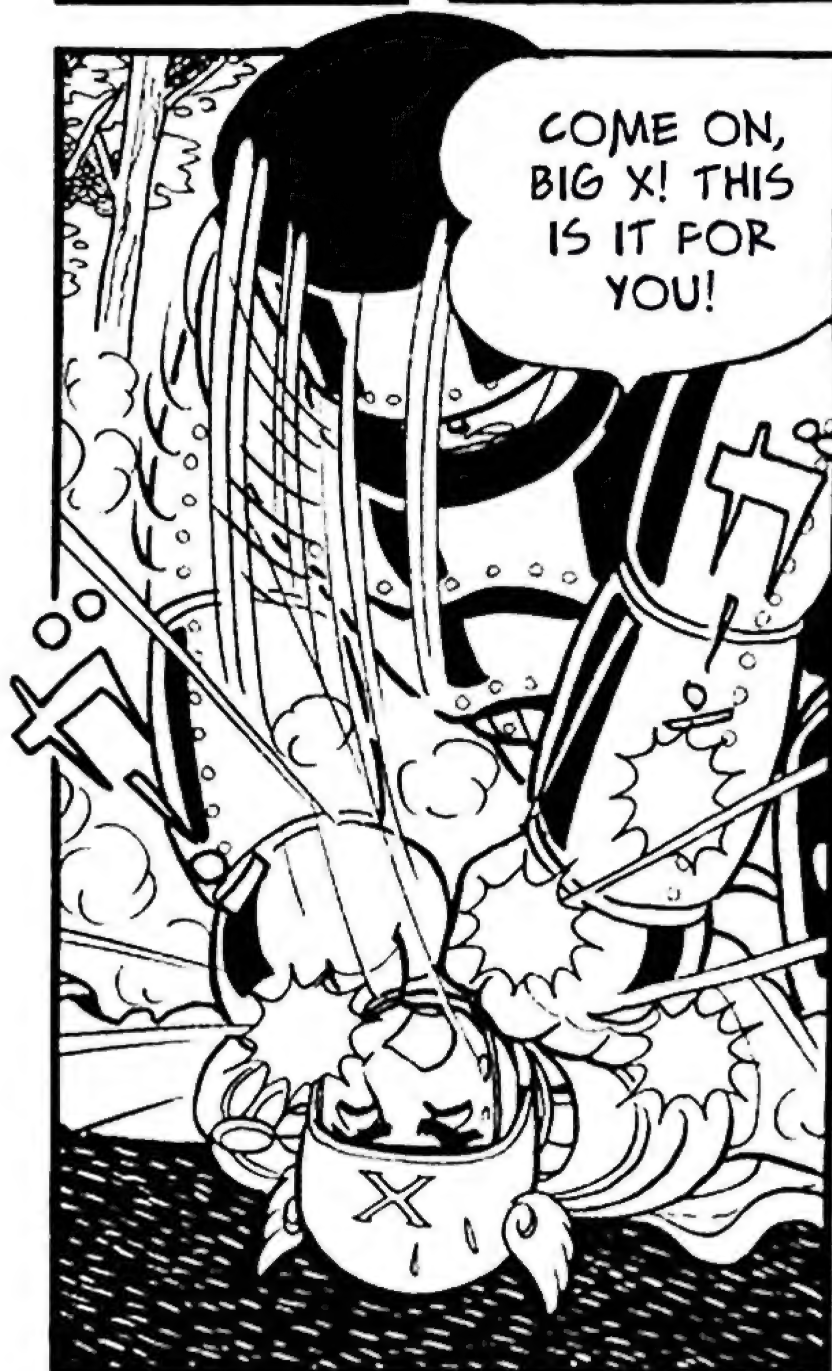
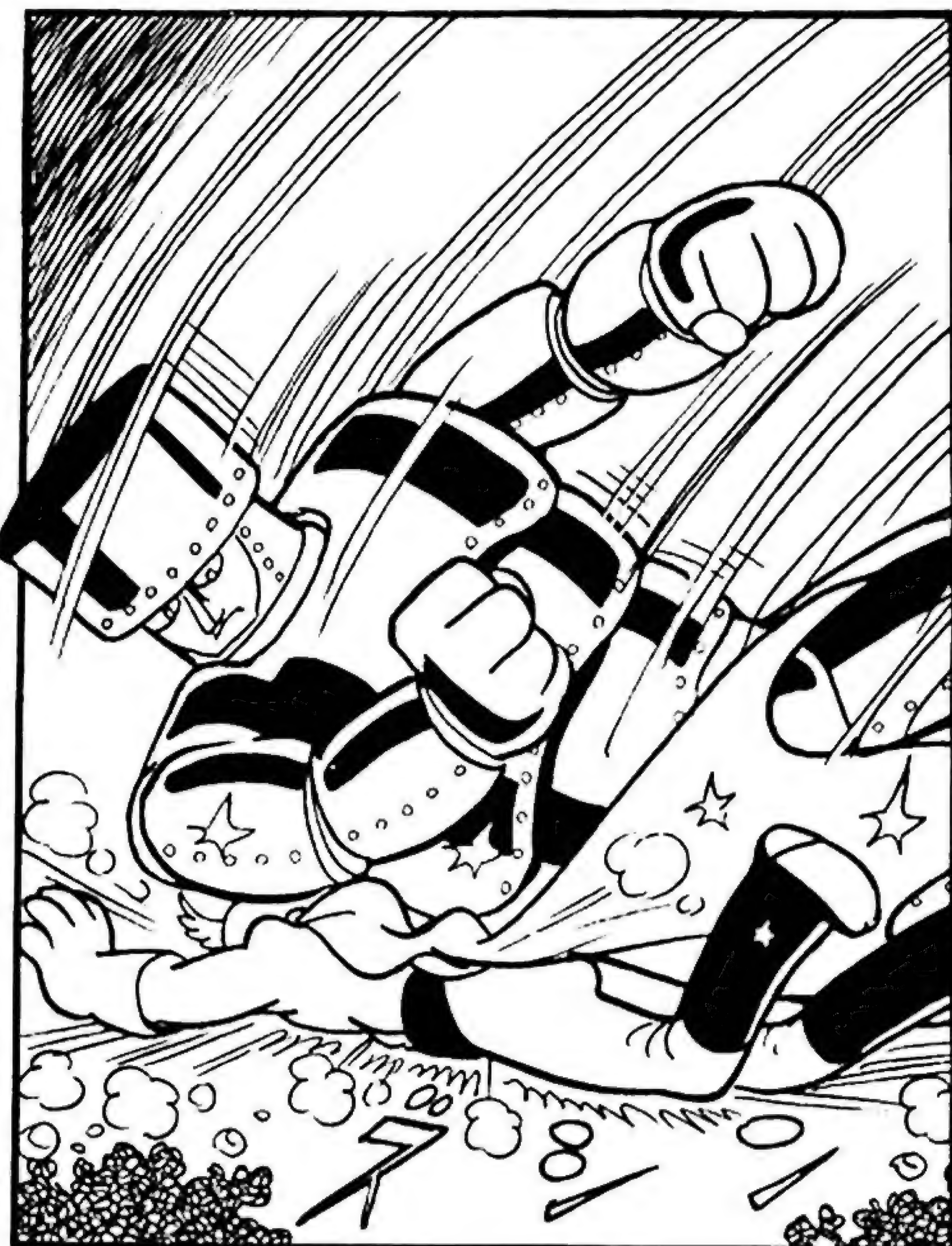
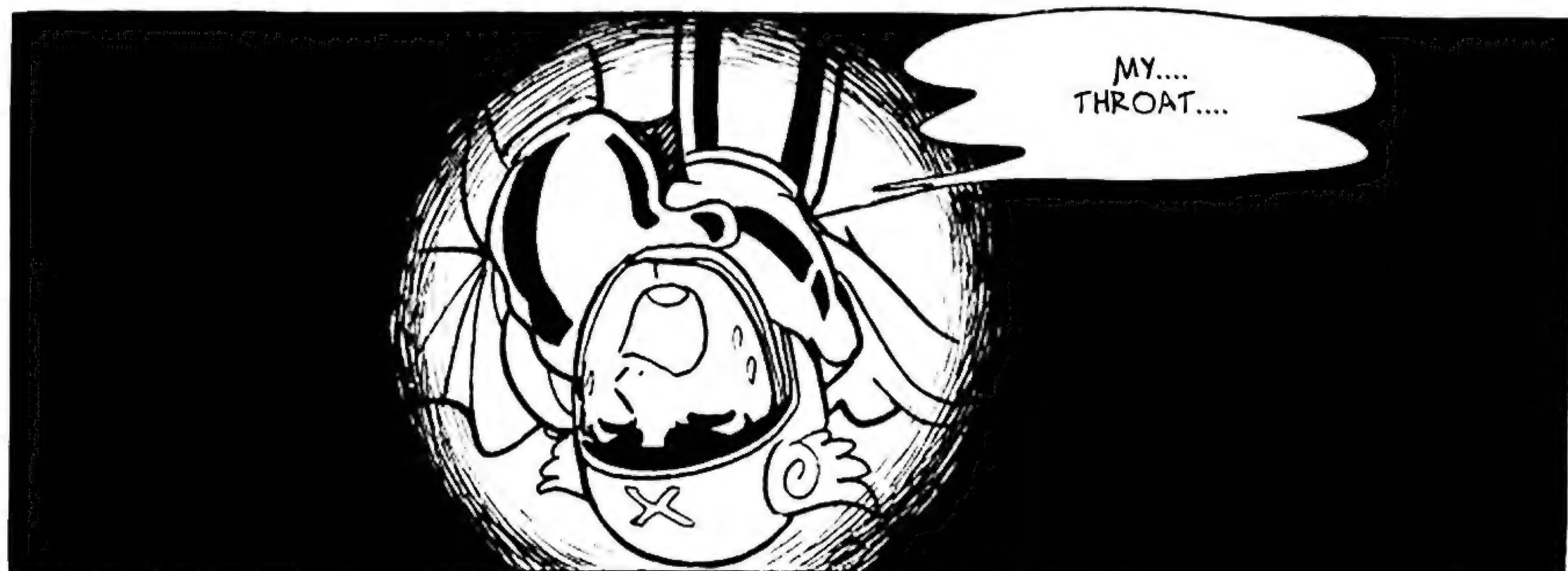

GRRR

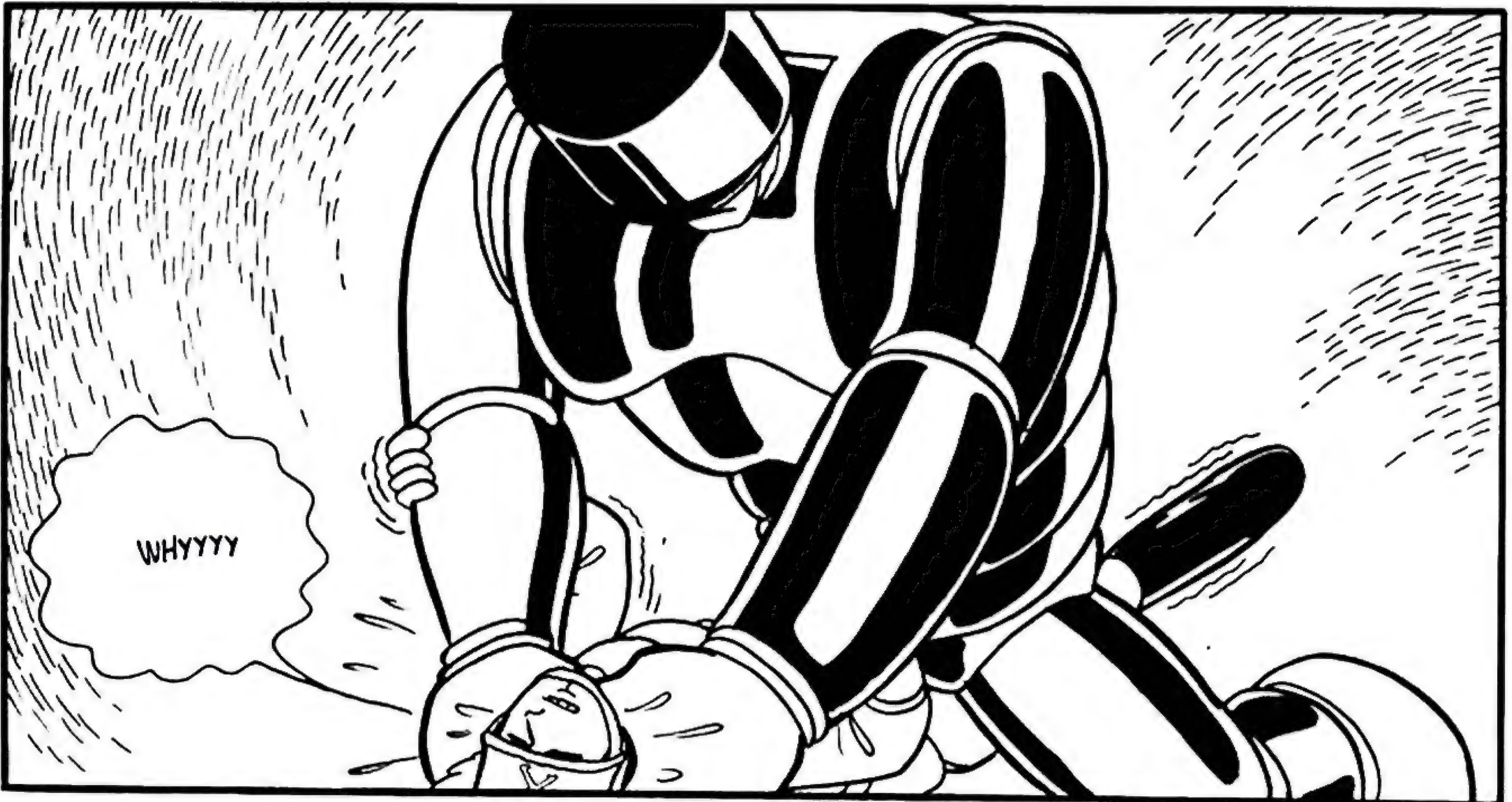




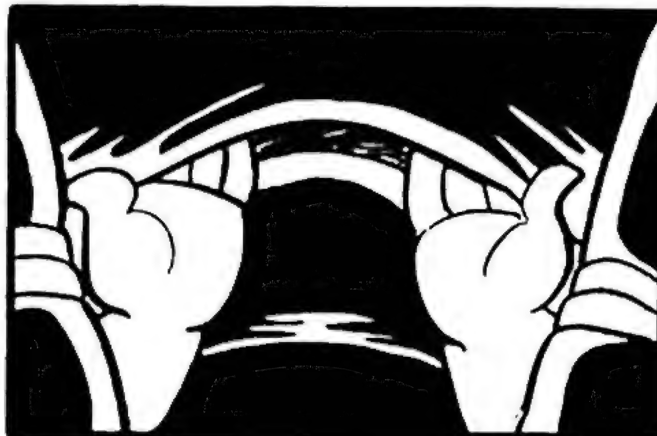


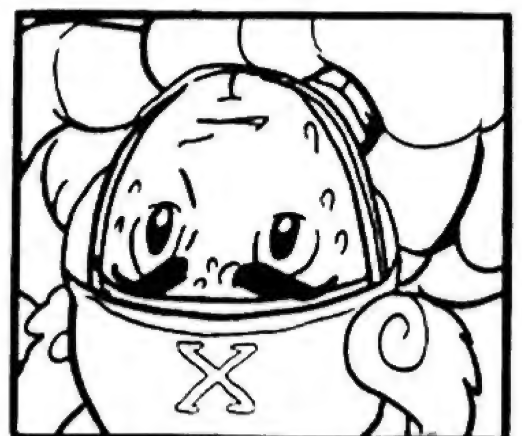


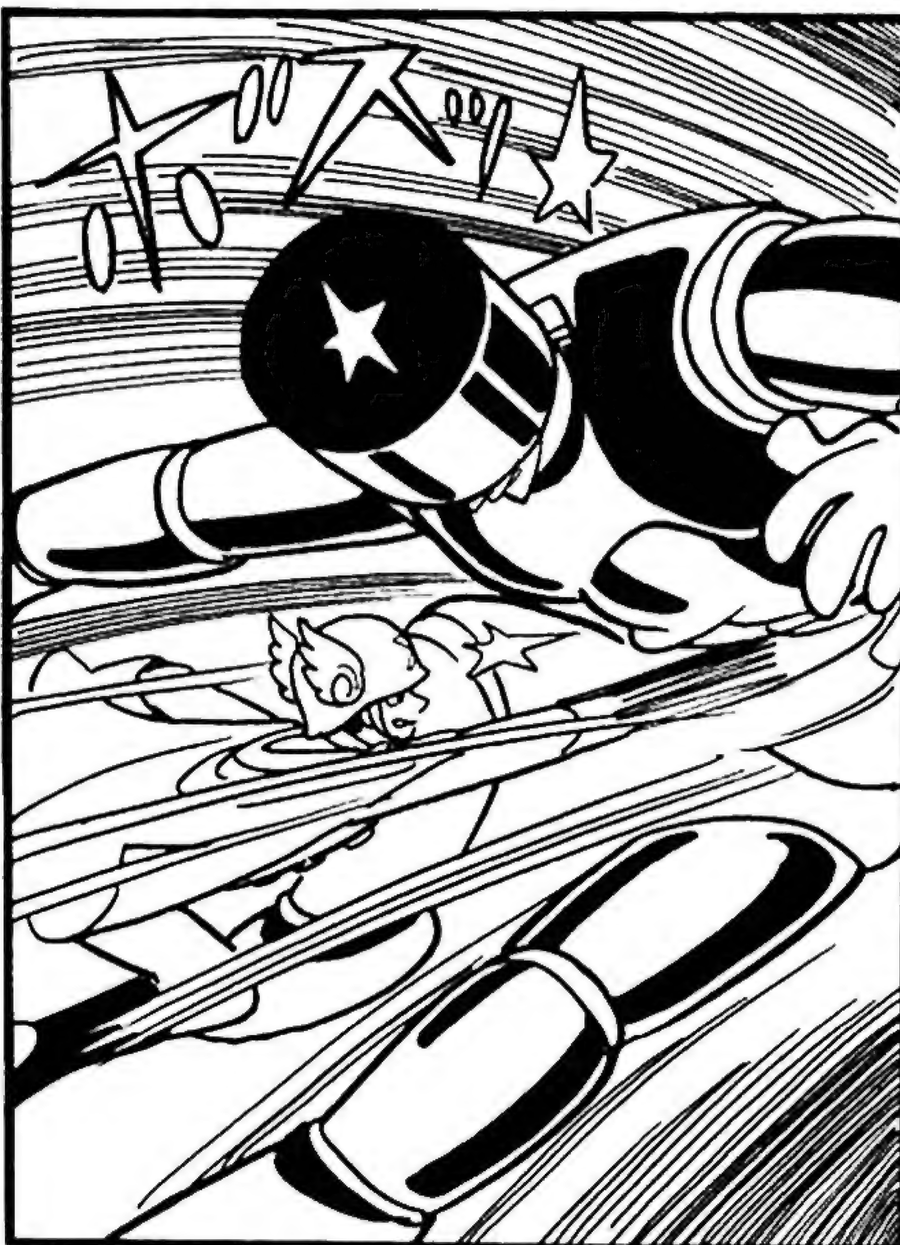


COME ON, BIG X! THIS IS IT FOR YOU!


MY.... THROAT....

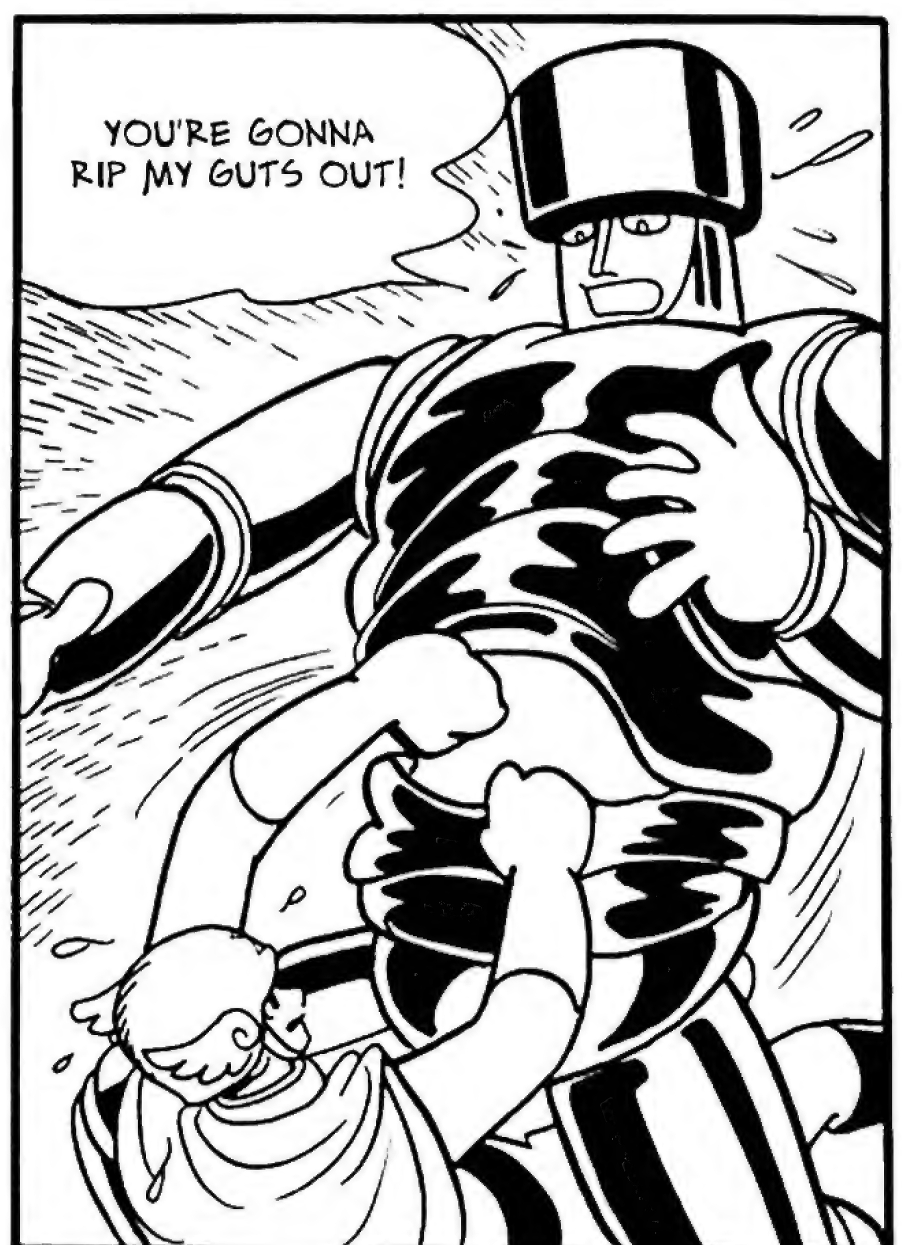

WHYYYY



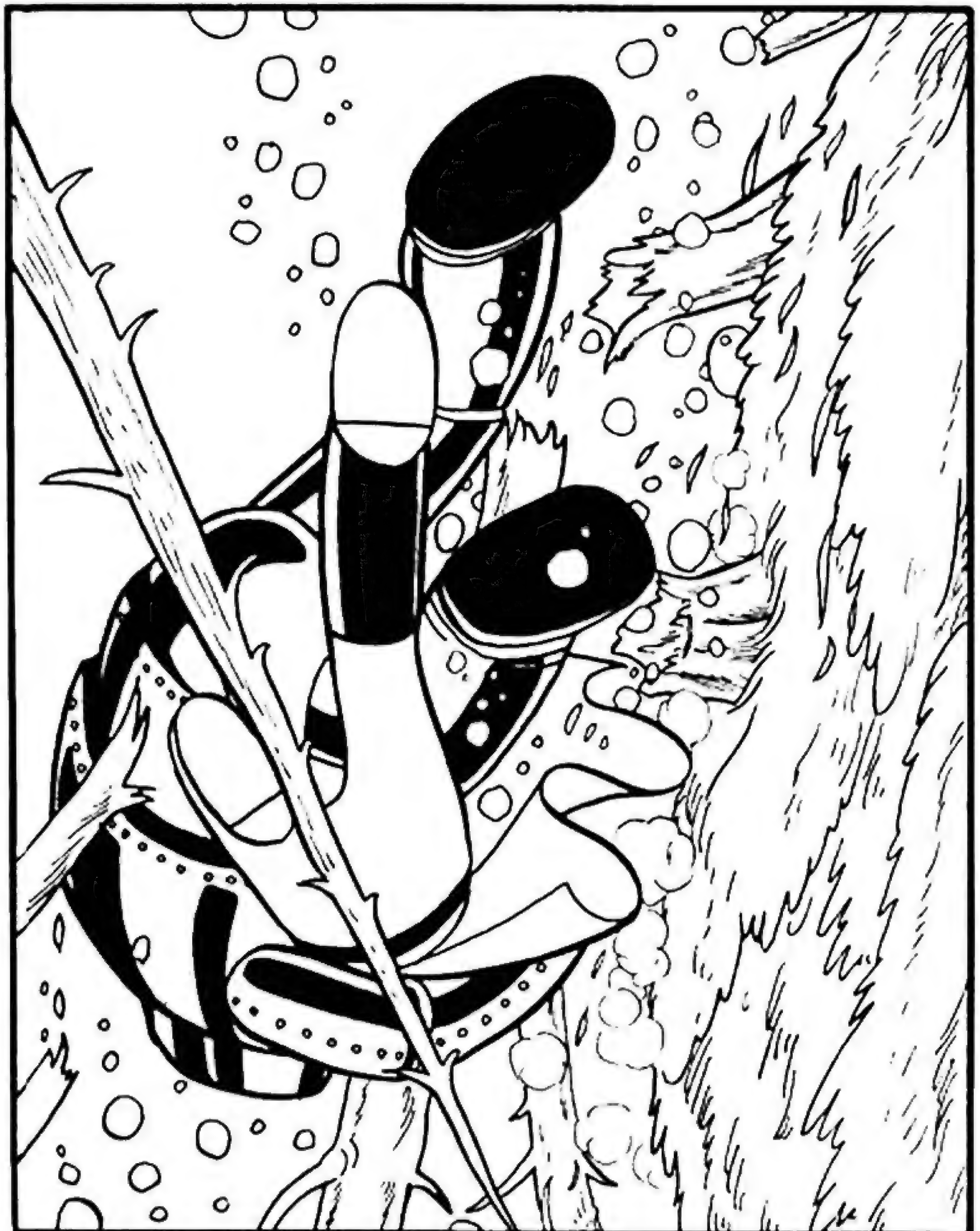


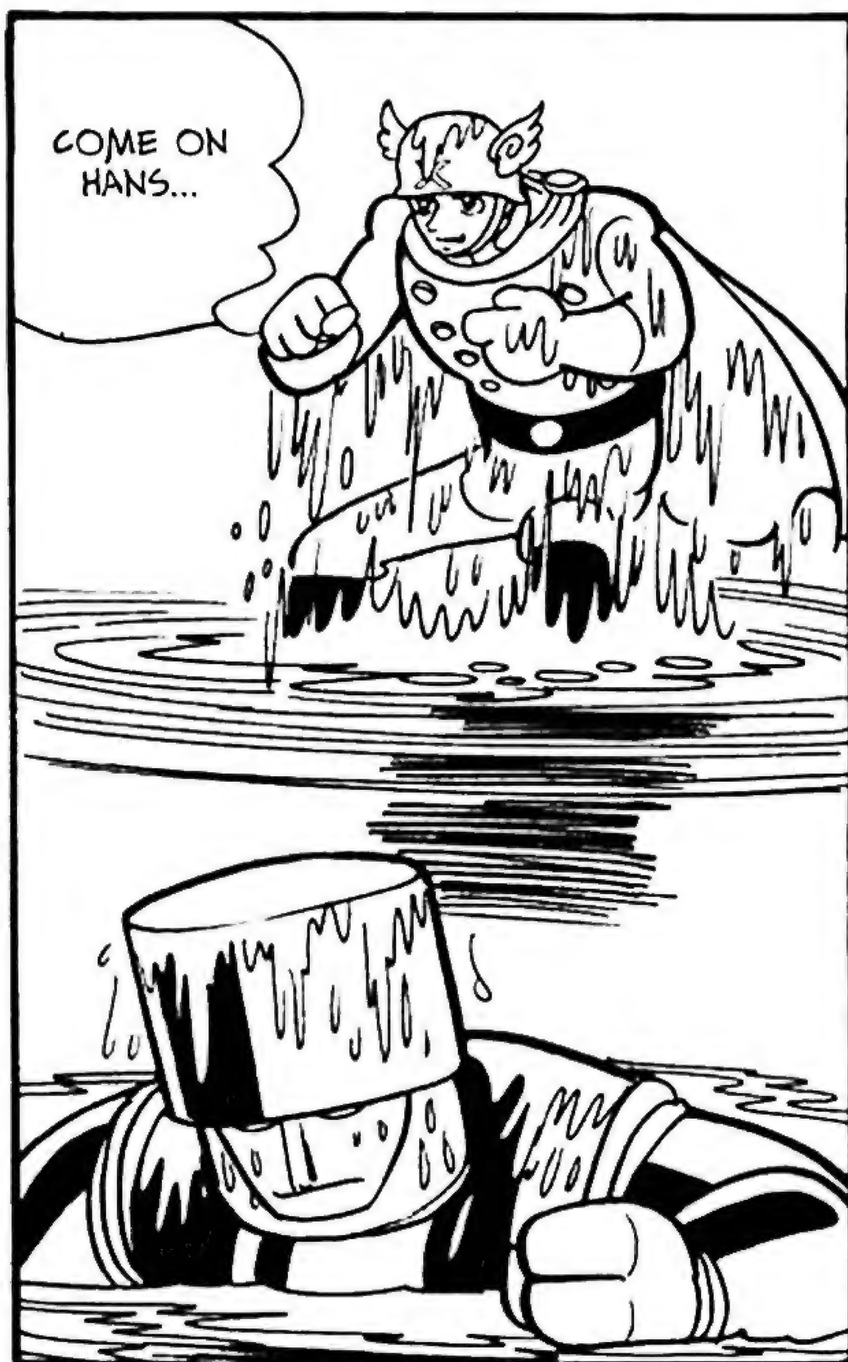


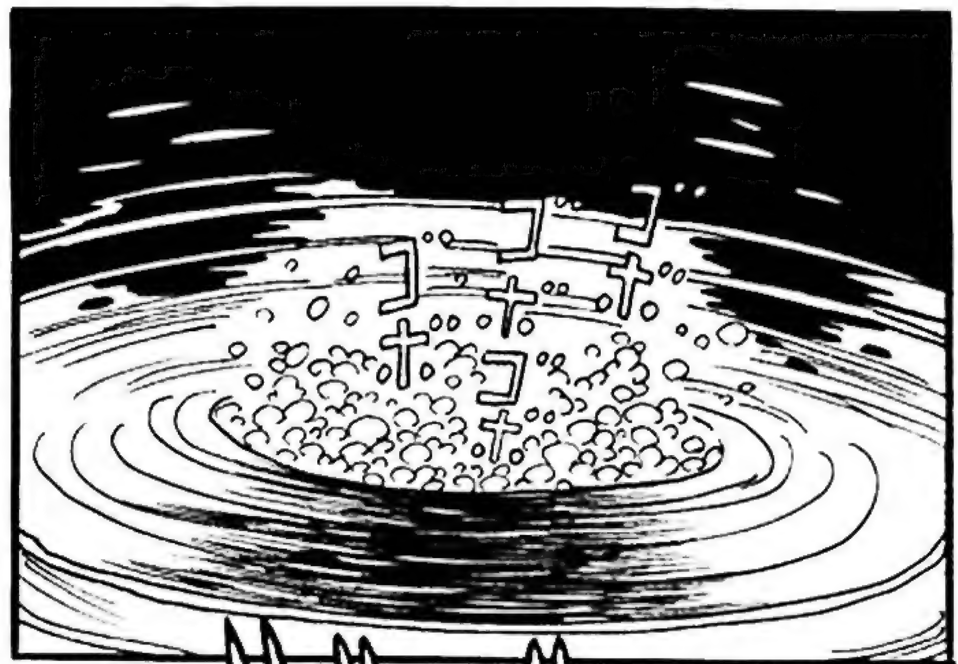



YOU'RE GONNA RIP MY GUTS OUT!





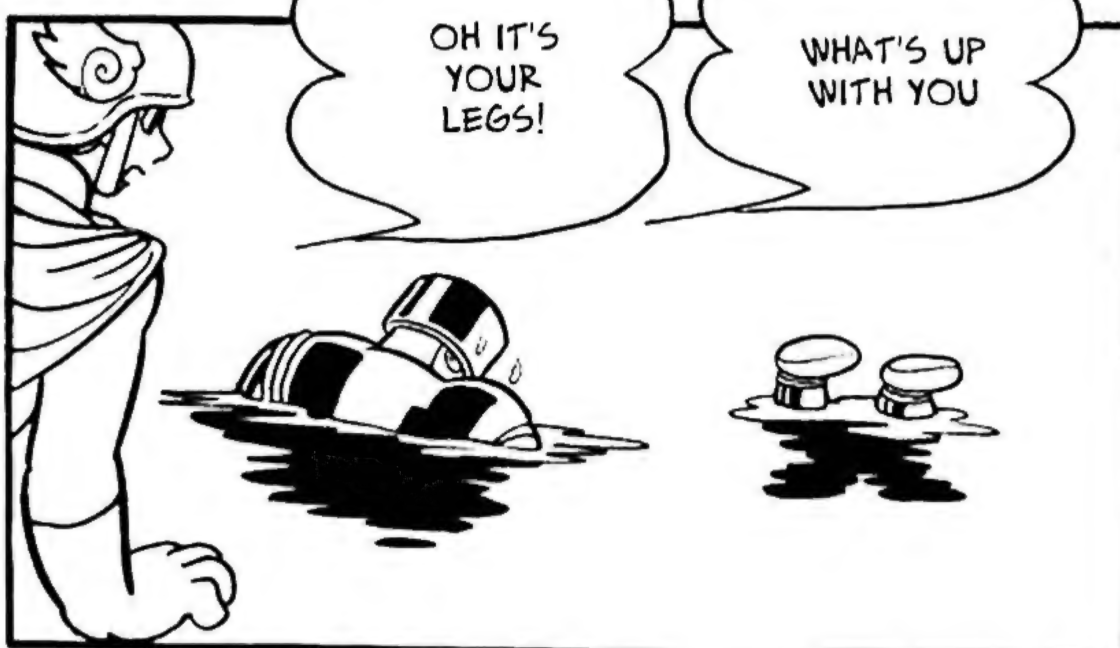

COME ON
HANS...



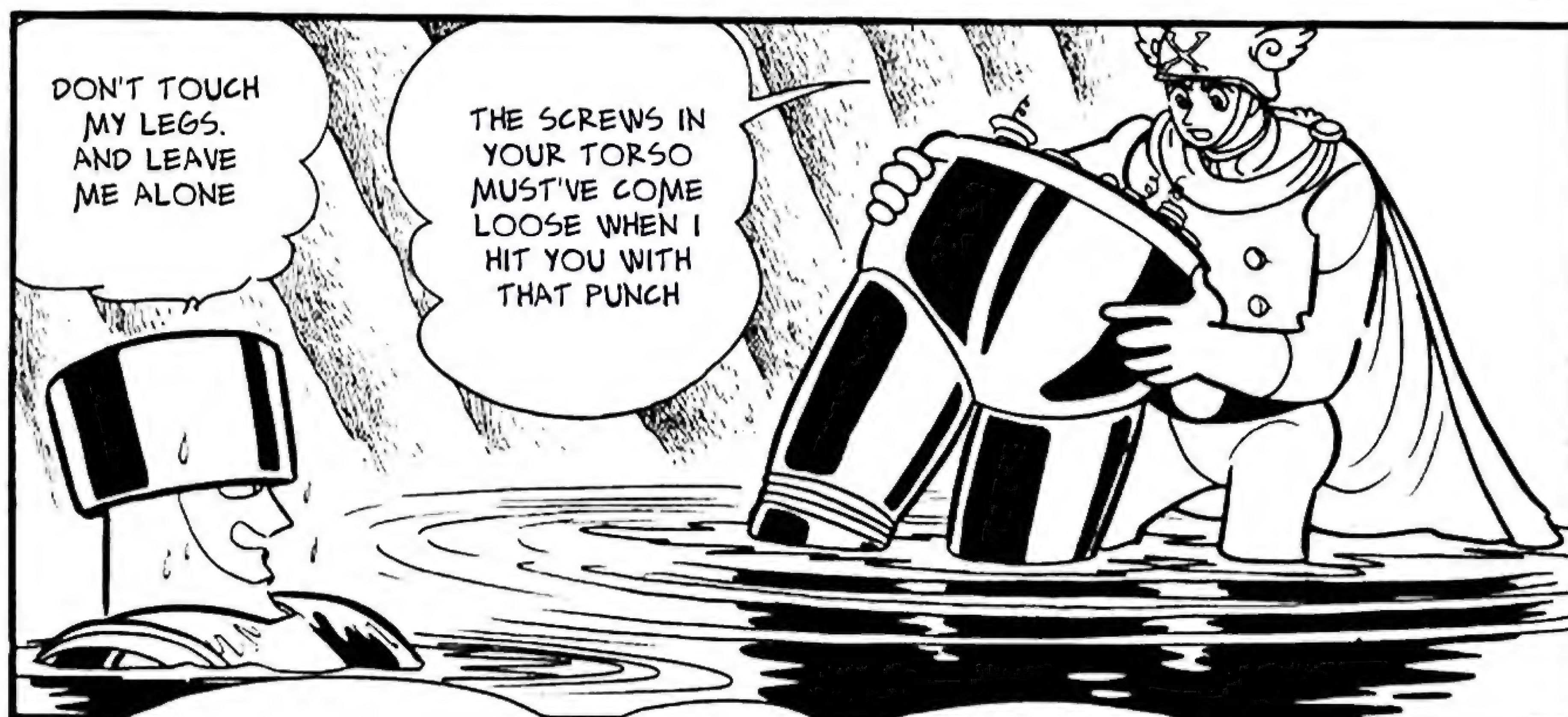


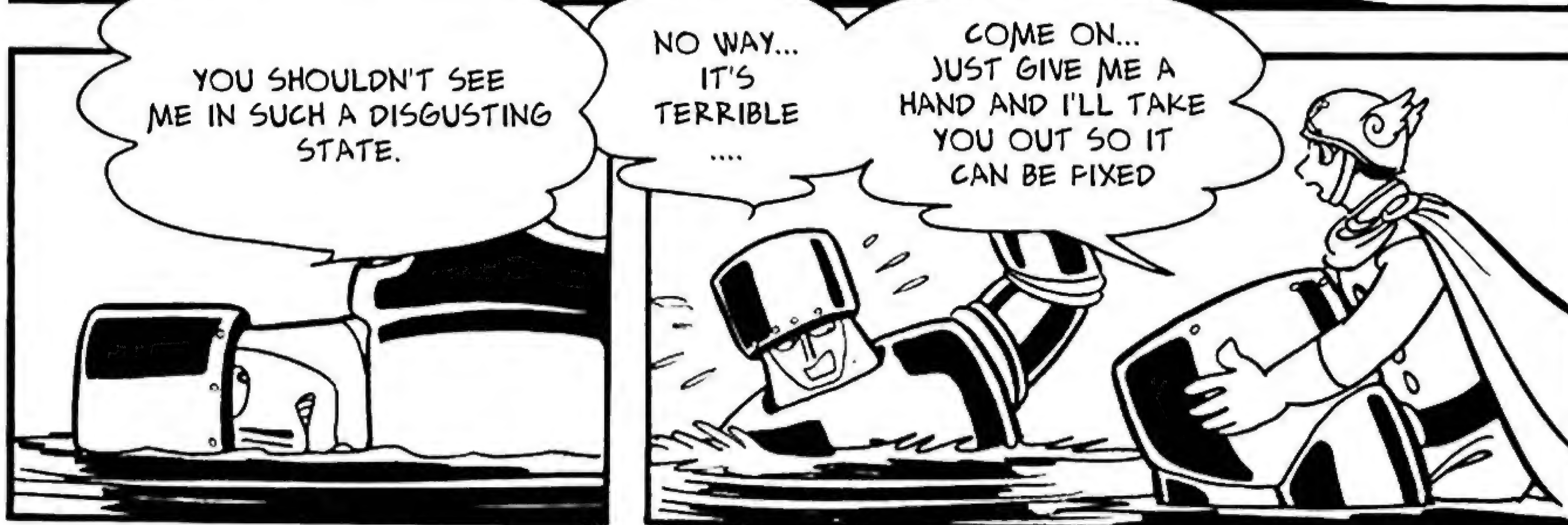
IF YOU DON'T GET UP HANS, THEN I HAVE TO GO. WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME.
FINE. GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE



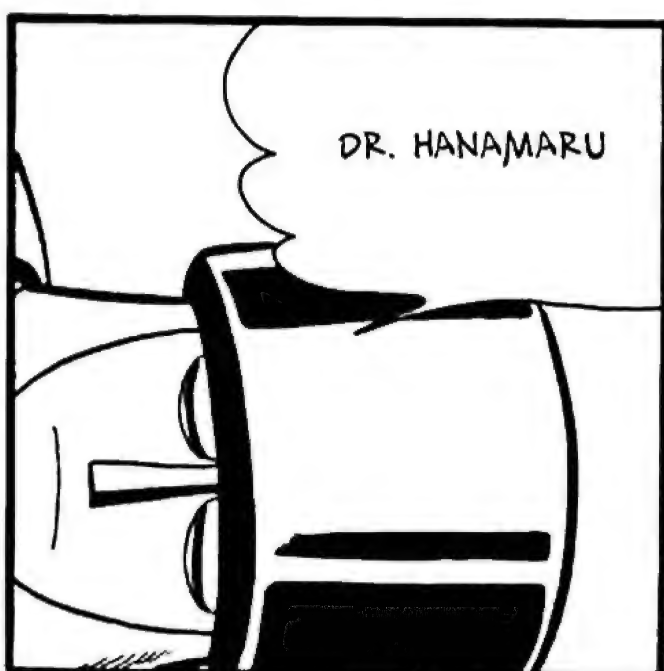


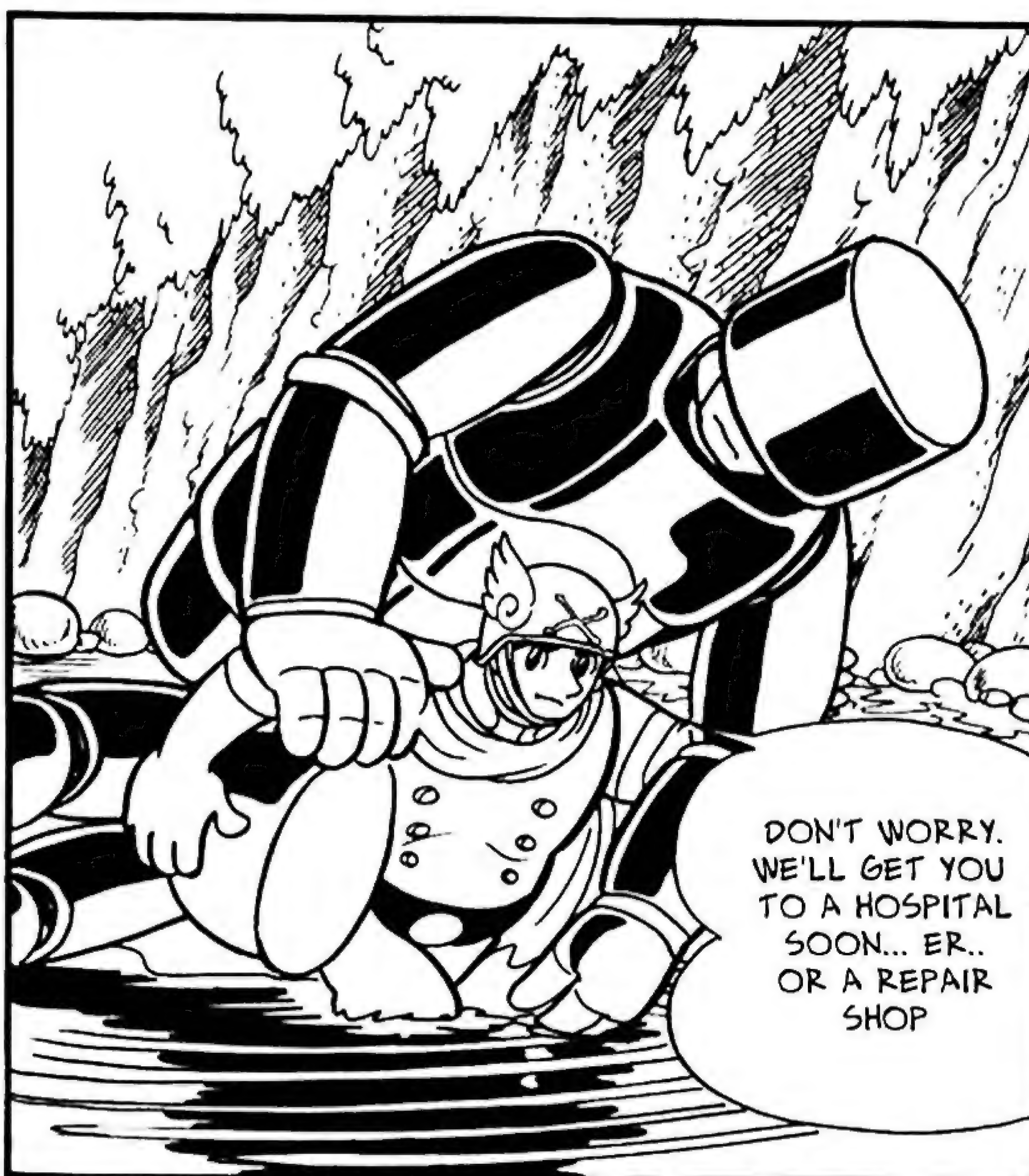



DON'T TOUCH MY LEGS. AND LEAVE ME ALONE
THE SCREWS IN YOUR TORSO MUST'VE COME LOOSE WHEN I HIT YOU WITH THAT PUNCH


YOU SHOULDN'T SEE ME IN SUCH A DISGUSTING STATE.
NO WAY... IT'S TERRIBLE ....
COME ON... JUST GIVE ME A HAND AND I'LL TAKE YOU OUT SO IT CAN BE FIXED

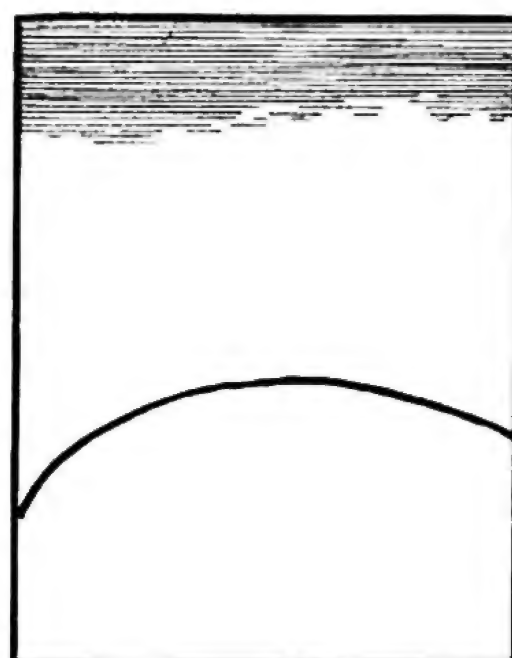

WHO GAVE YOU A BODY LIKE THIS HANS?


DR. HANAMARU


DON'T WORRY. WE'LL GET YOU TO A HOSPITAL SOON... ER.. OR A REPAIR SHOP

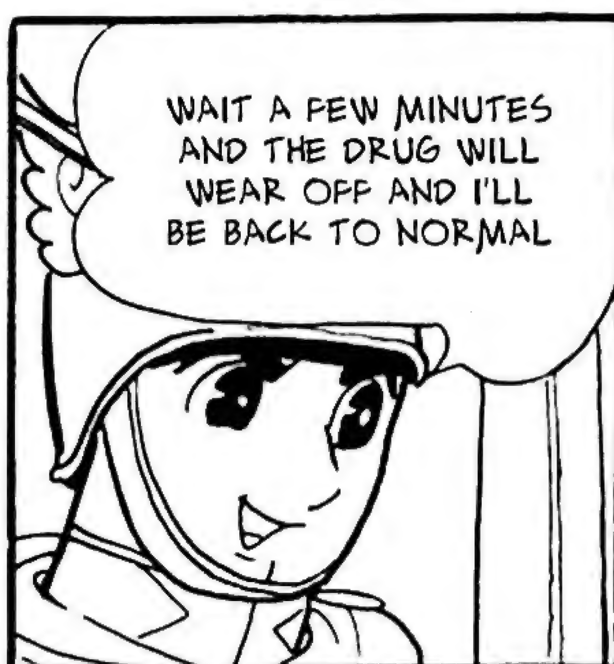

AKIRA!





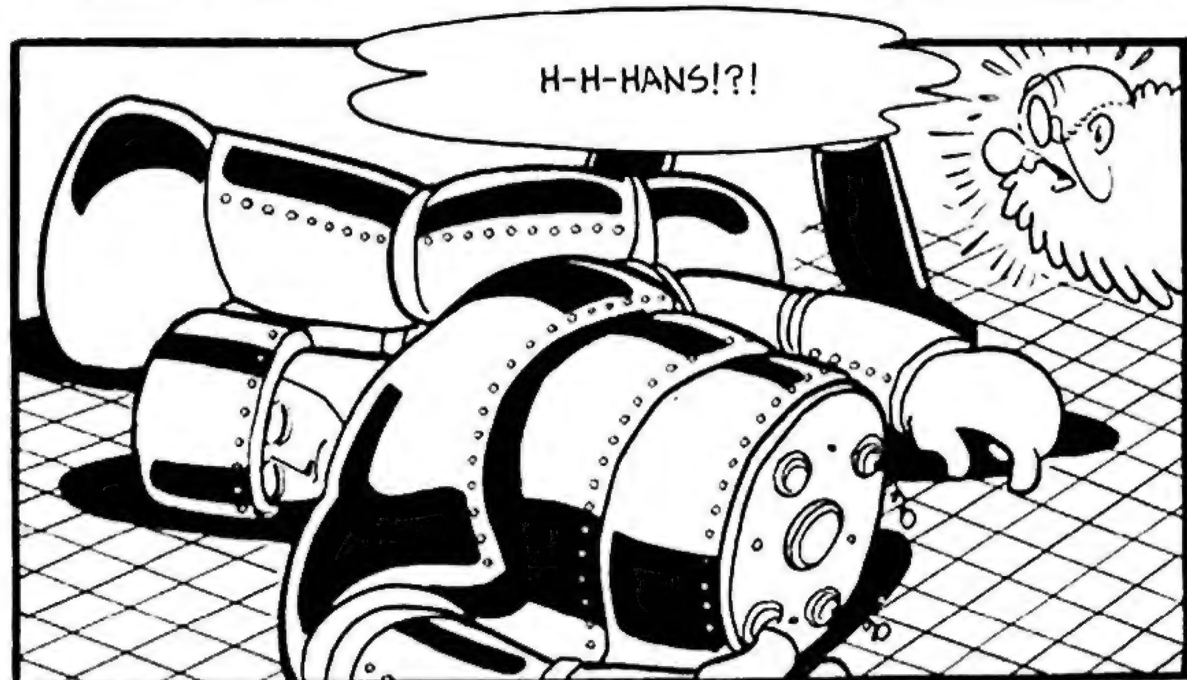

WELL IF IT ISN'T AKIRA! IT'S BEEN SO LONG!
DR. HANAMARU! IT HAS BEEN A WHILE!



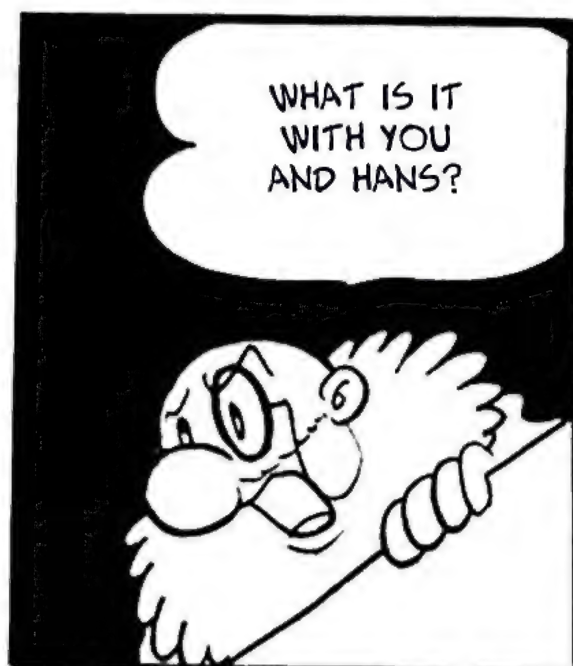

WAIT A FEW MINUTES AND THE DRUG WILL WEAR OFF AND I'LL BE BACK TO NORMAL

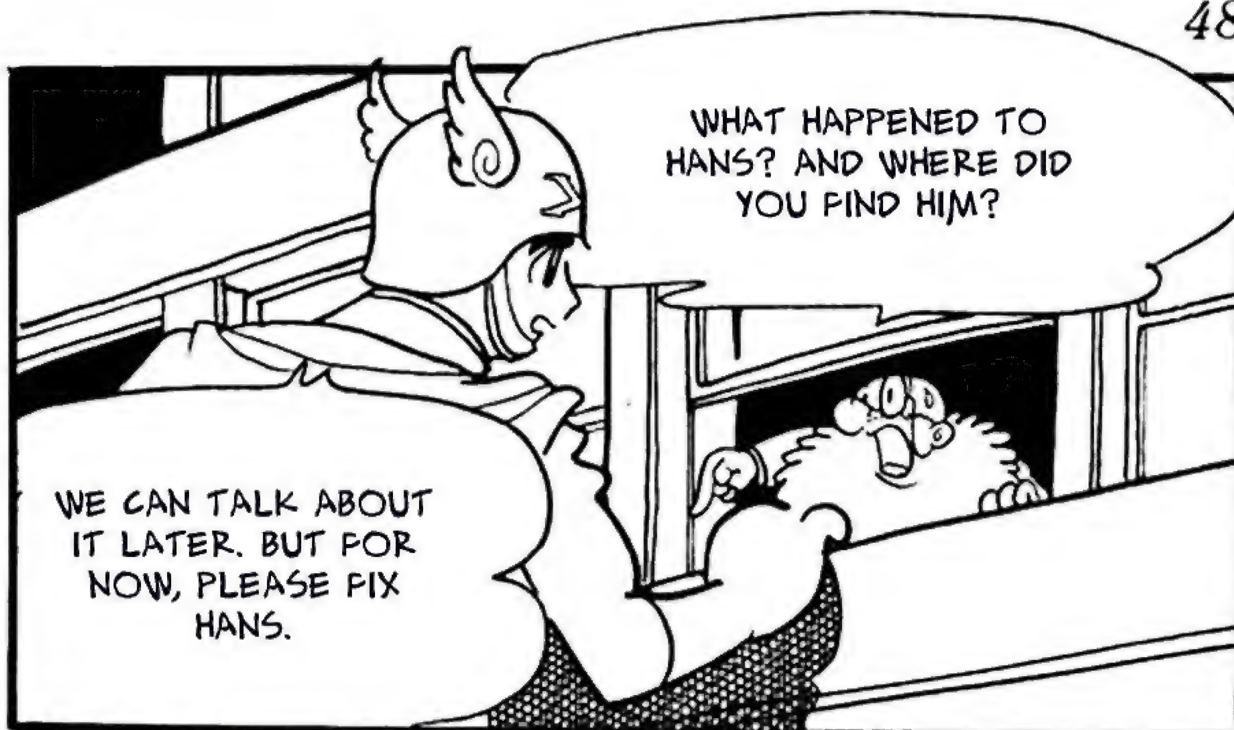

OH RIGHT... YOU WON'T FIT IN HERE


WHY DON'T YOU COME IN AND I'LL MAKE YOU SOME TEA


H-H-HANS!?!


BUT FIRST, WE NEED TO LOOK AT HANS


WHAT IS IT WITH YOU AND HANS?


WHAT HAPPENED TO HANS? AND WHERE DID YOU FIND HIM?
WE CAN TALK ABOUT IT LATER. BUT FOR NOW, PLEASE FIX HANS.

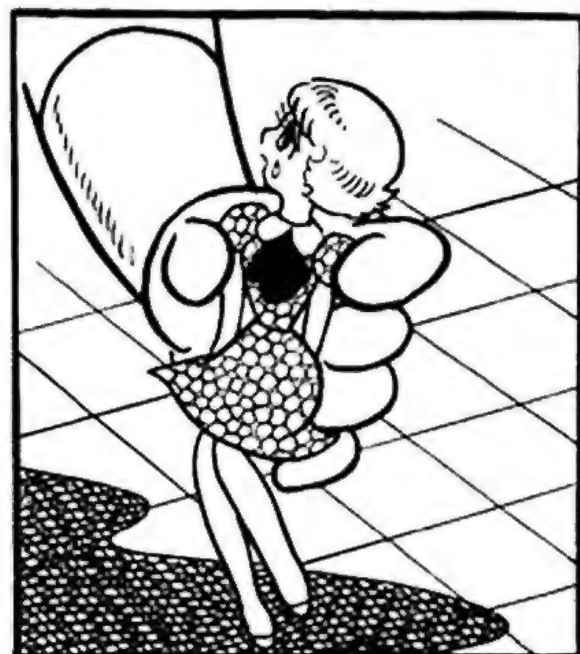

WHAAAT? NO!

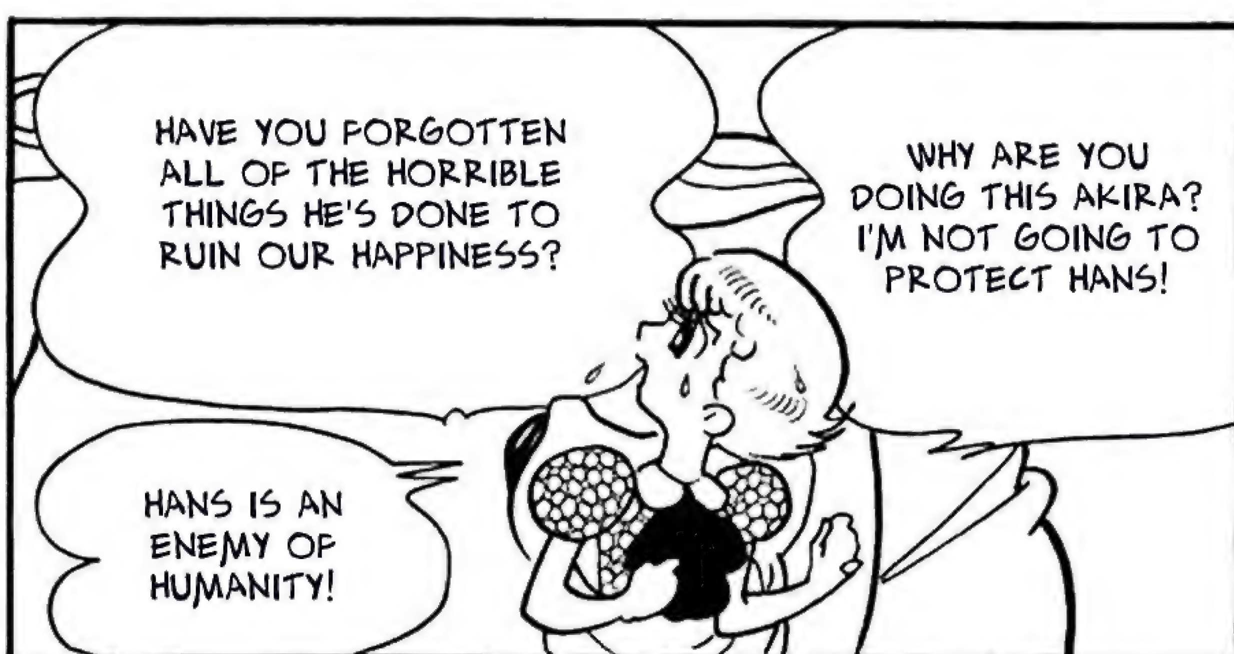

WE'RE FRIENDS


WELL .....


HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE OUT THERE?
AND WHO ARE YOU?
I... I'M NINA


HE'S NOT OUR FRIEND. HE'S AN ENEMY. HE'S THE ONE WHO KEEPS TRYING TO KILL US.

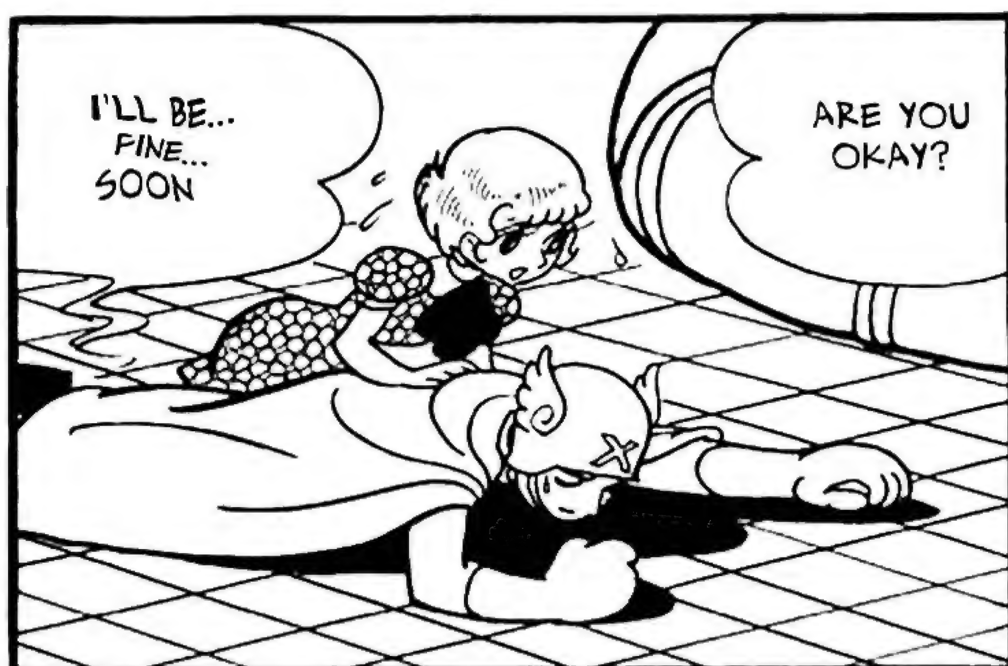


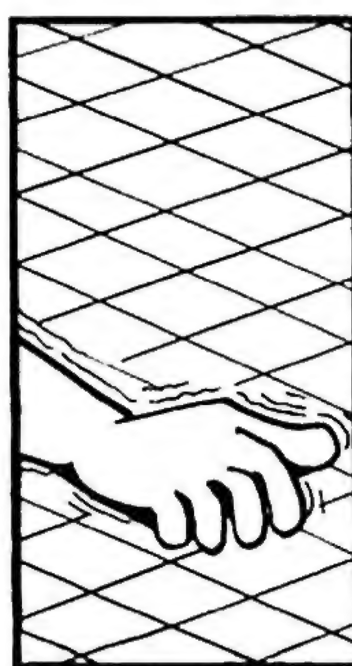

WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS AKIRA? I'M NOT GOING TO PROTECT HANS!
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN ALL OF THE HORRIBLE THINGS HE'S DONE TO RUIN OUR HAPPINESS?
HANS IS AN ENEMY OF HUMANITY!


YOU'RE RUNNING OUT OF STEAM AKIRA


OOH


I UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL, BUT I CAN'T HELP BUT FEEL BAD FOR HANS


I'LL BE... FINE... SOON
ARE YOU OKAY?



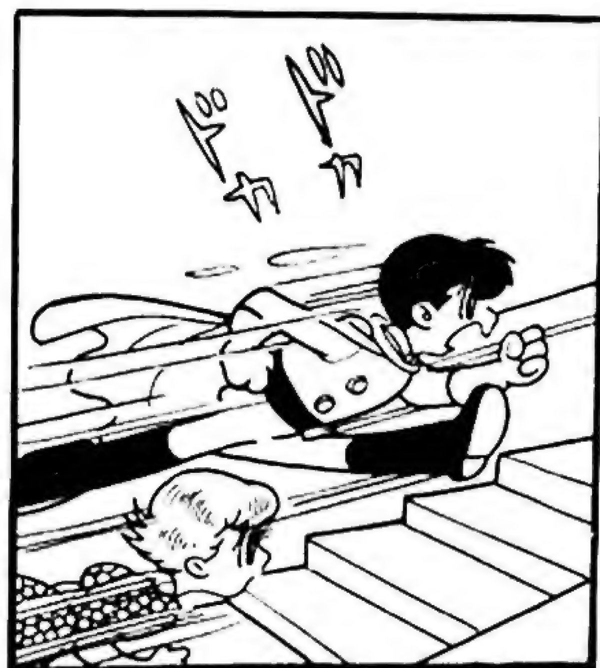


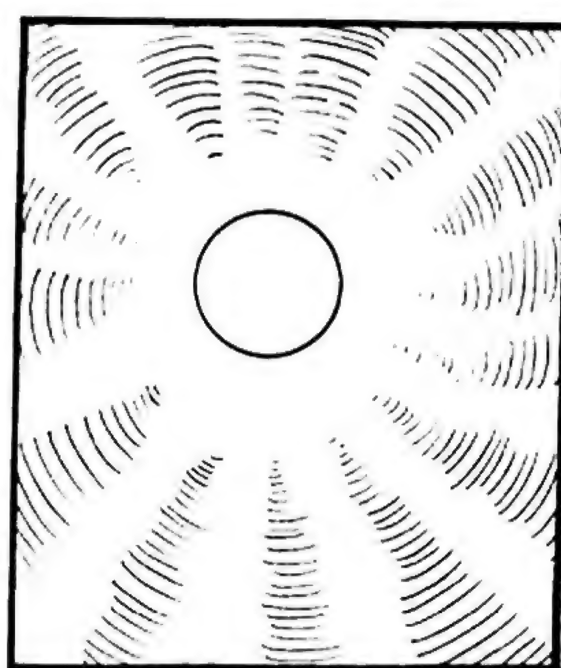

NOON!


LUNCH? IT'S NOON?


ALL RIGHTY. NOW THAT WE'RE BACK ON TRACK, LET'S HAVE LUNCH AND I'LL LISTEN TO YOUR STORY


PHEW...



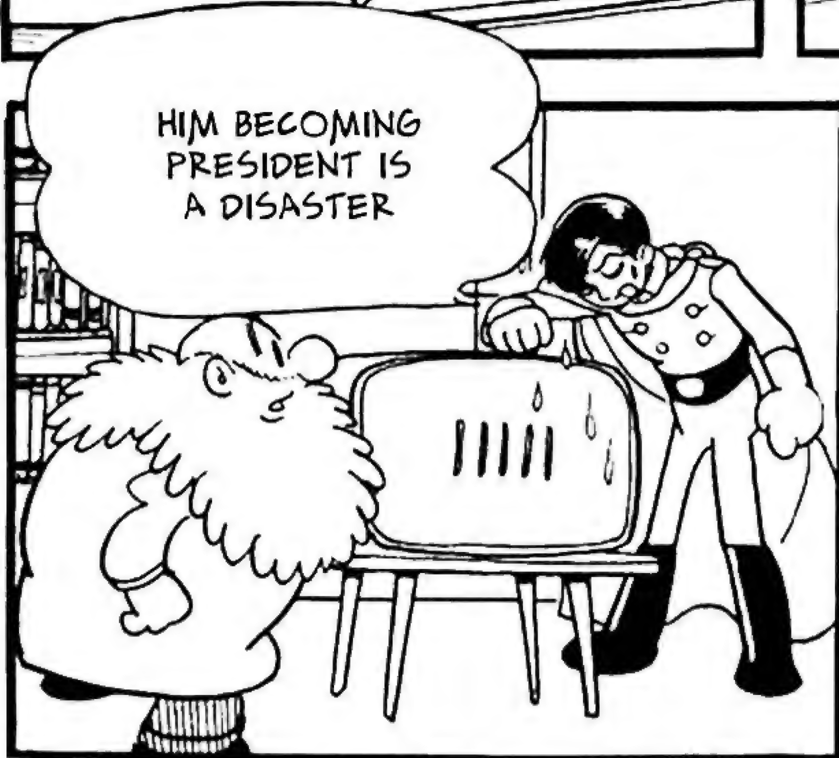



OH SHIT!


CONGRESSMAN SILVER ALLO HAS BEEN ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES


NO SIR... DOCTOR, TURN ON THE TV!


WHAT'S WRONG? WHEN I SAID "NOON" YOU RAN OUT OF THE HOUSE.
I'M HUNGRY... AREN'T YOU HUNGRY?

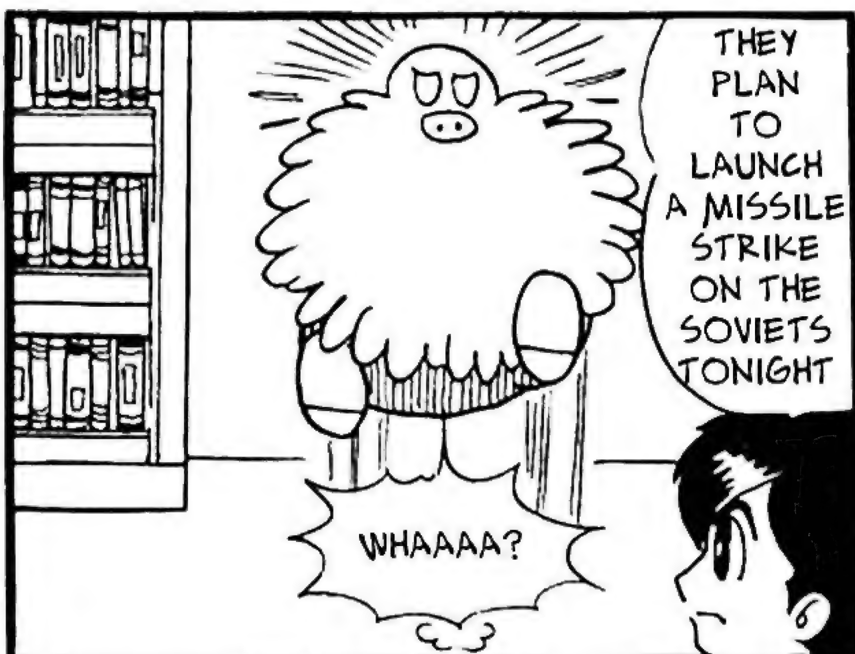

HIM BECOMING PRESIDENT IS A DISASTER

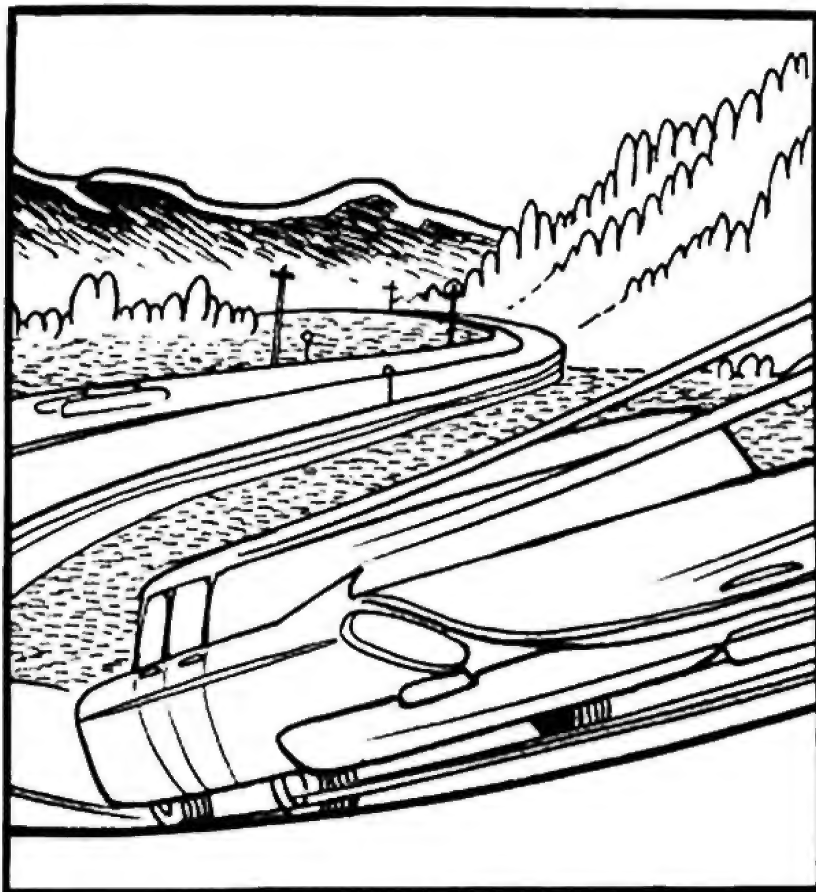

I'M TOO LATE ...



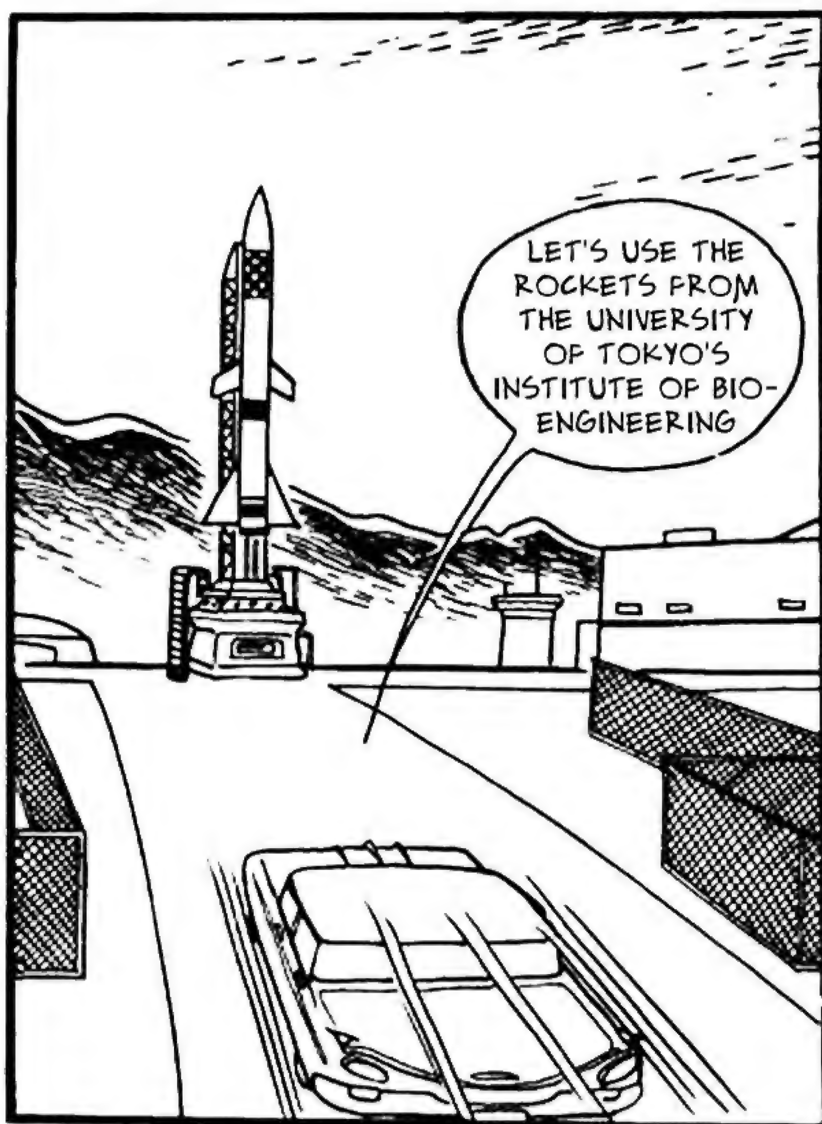

I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT POLITICS.
WHAT DO YOU THINK IS GOING TO HAPPEN WITH MR. SILVER AS PRESIDENT?

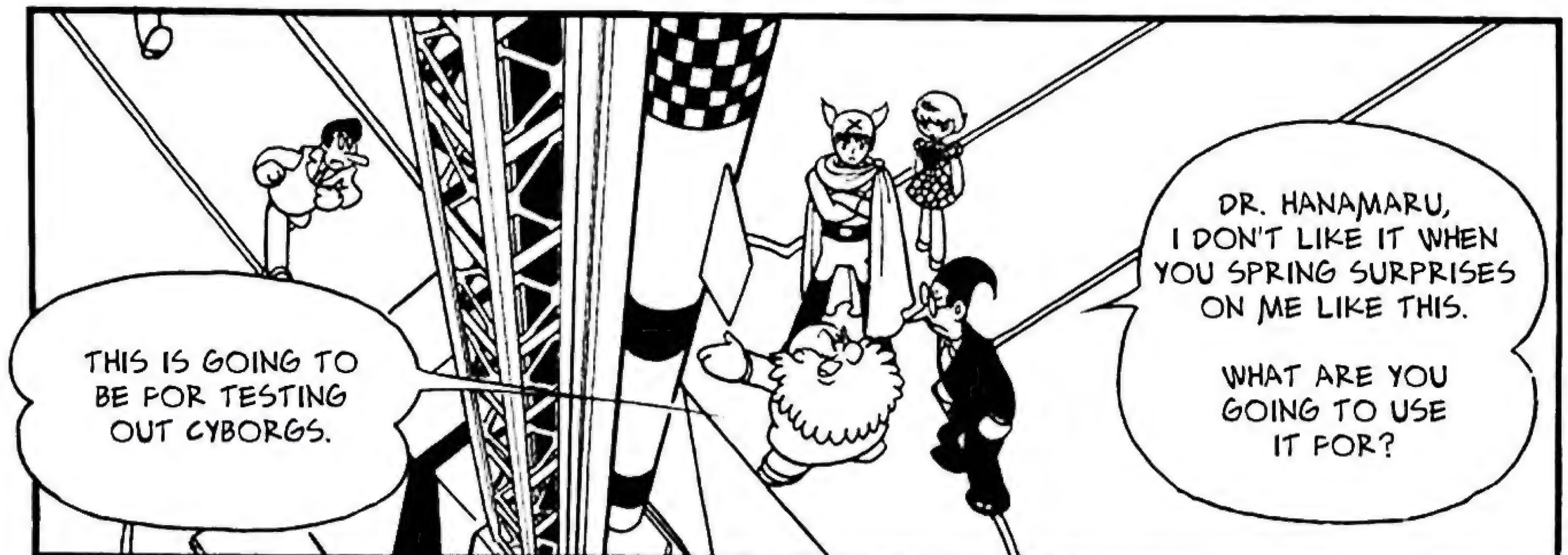

MR. SILVER IS A PAWN IN THE CABAL KNOWN AS THE CROSS PARTY


THEY PLAN TO LAUNCH A MISSILE STRIKE ON THE SOVIETS TONIGHT
WHAAAA?




I'M GOING TO NEED THE POWER OF BIG X TO CRUSH THIS CONSPIRACY! THERE'S NO TIME TO WASTE. I HAVE TO GET TO THE U.S. BEFORE SILVER GIVES THE ORDER TO FIRE THOSE MISSILES!
OKAY THEN! I'LL HELP ALL I CAN!

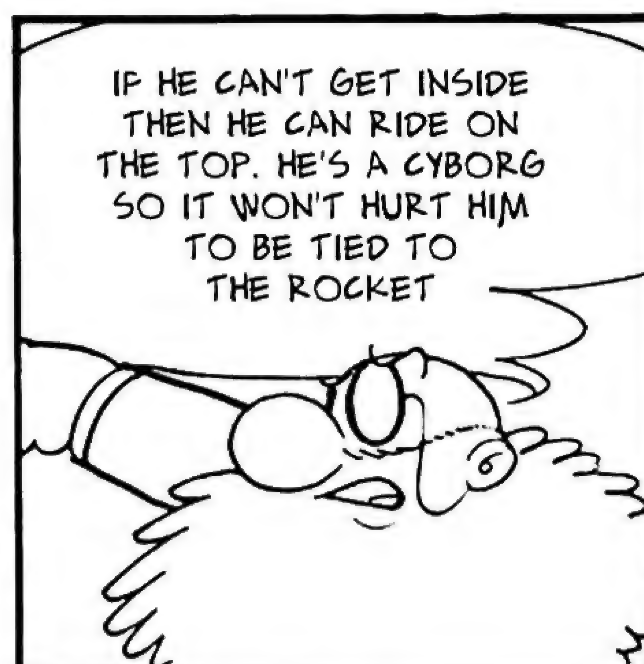

LET'S USE THE ROCKETS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO'S INSTITUTE OF BIO-ENGINEERING


DR. HANAMARU, I DON'T LIKE IT WHEN YOU SPRING SURPRISES ON ME LIKE THIS.
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO USE IT FOR?
THIS IS GOING TO BE FOR TESTING OUT CYBORGS.


FIRST OF ALL, IT'S TOO SMALL FOR A HUMAN TO FIT IN


BUT I CAN'T
I HAVE MY REASONS FOR RUNING THE TEST RIGHT AWAY AND I NEED YOU TO SET IT UP IMMEDIATELY


WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR "BUTS" OR NAVELS OR ANYTHING ELSE. HURRY UP AND GET IT OUT THERE, BECAUSE WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF TIME!
BUT .....


IF HE CAN'T GET INSIDE THEN HE CAN RIDE ON THE TOP. HE'S A CYBORG SO IT WON'T HURT HIM TO BE TIED TO THE ROCKET

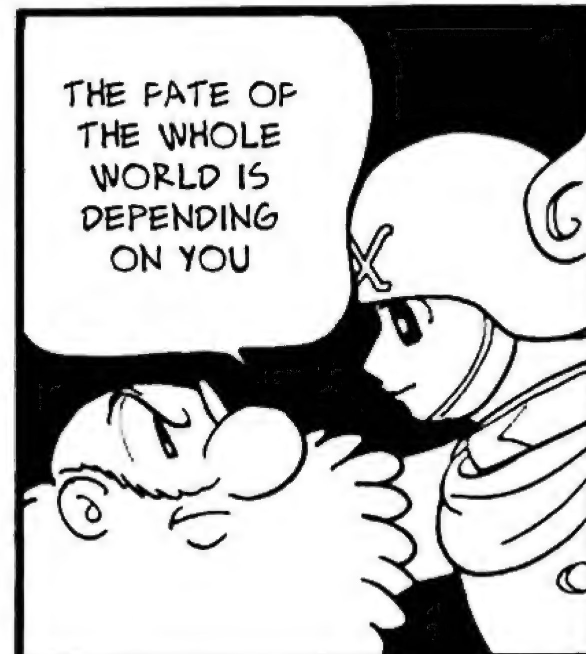

COME ON AKIRA!
DOCTOR! THANK YOU!

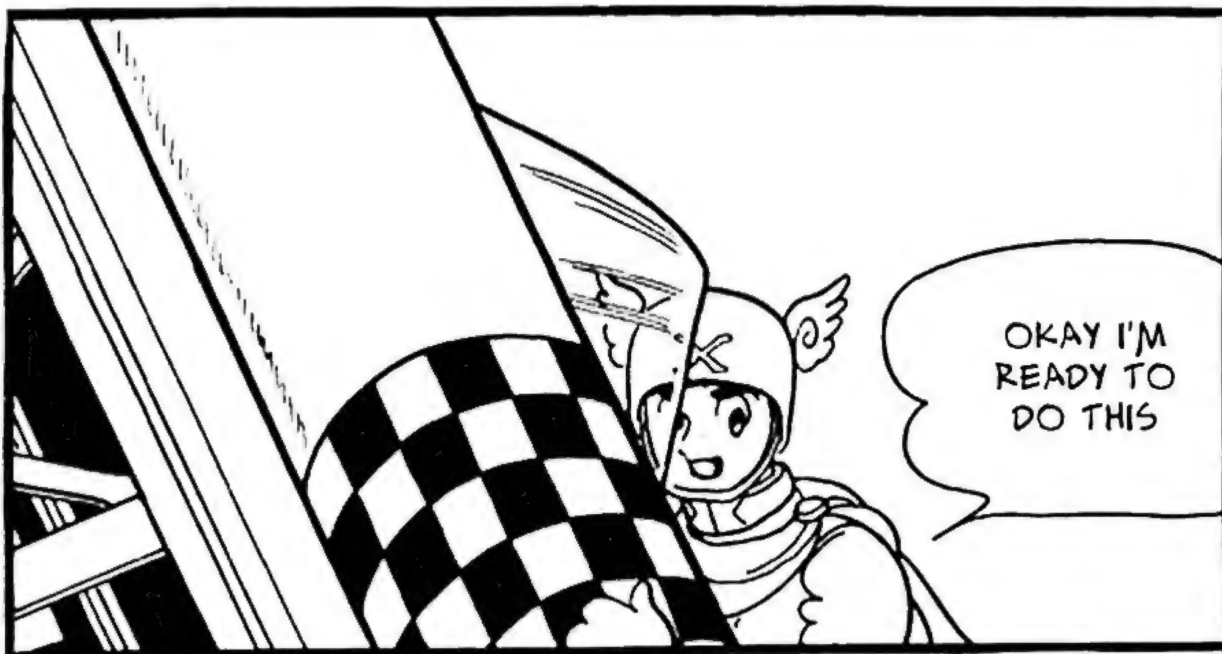

GET PREPARED TO FIRE!
FINE! I DON'T GET IT, BUT LET'S GET GOING

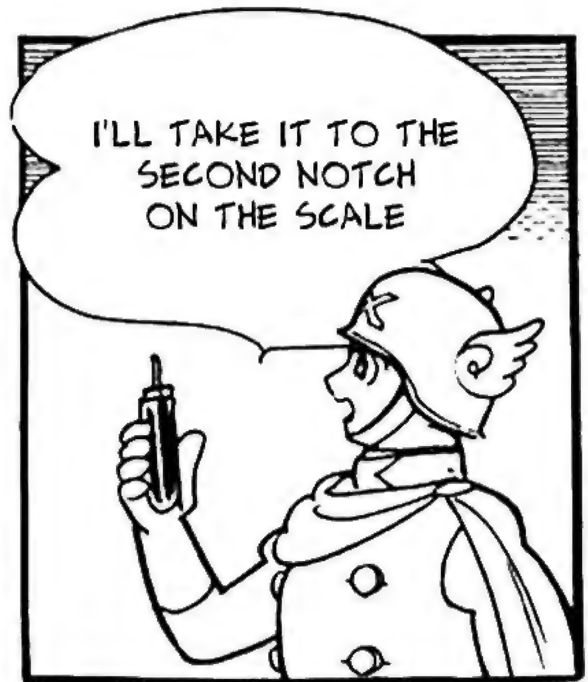

PLEASE... IF WE DON'T DO THIS NOW, WE'LL ALL BE IN BIG TROUBLE

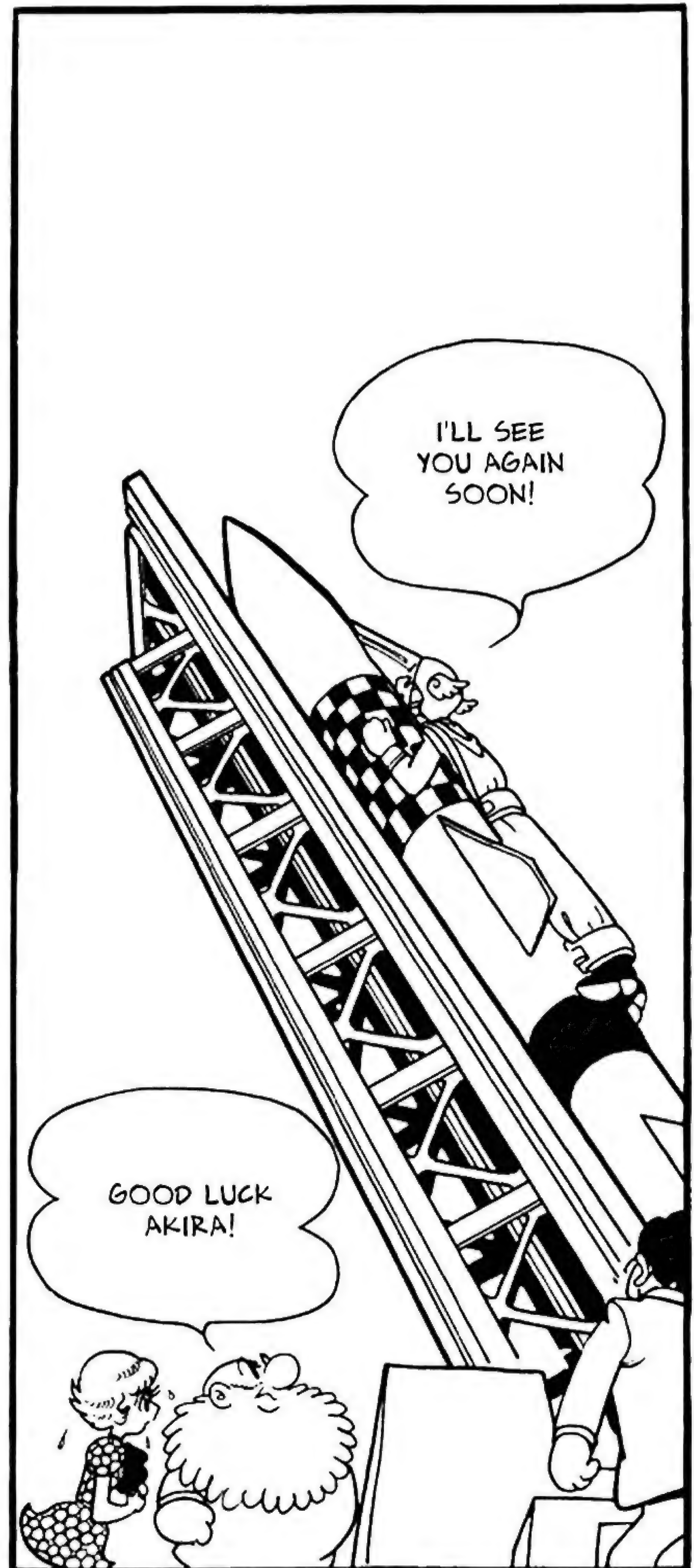


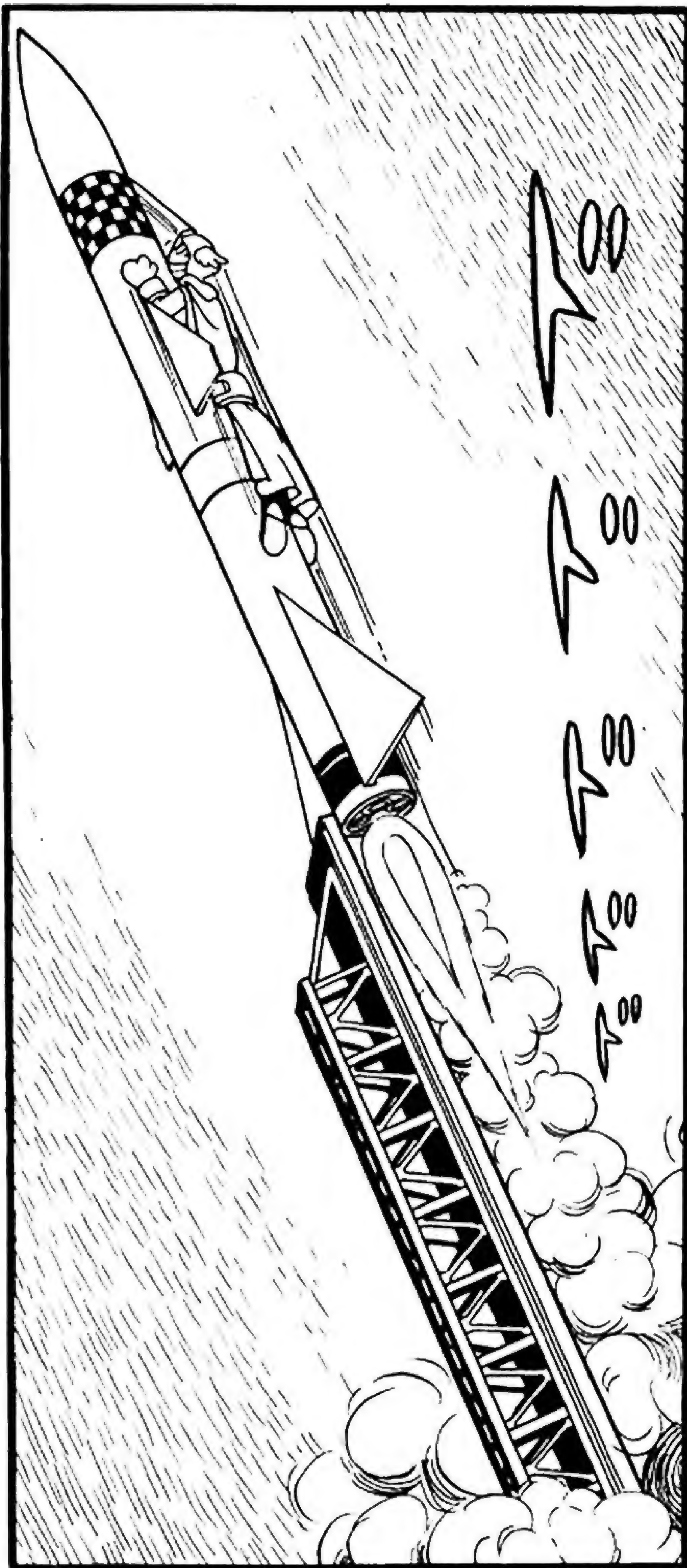

AKIRA... THE DRUG

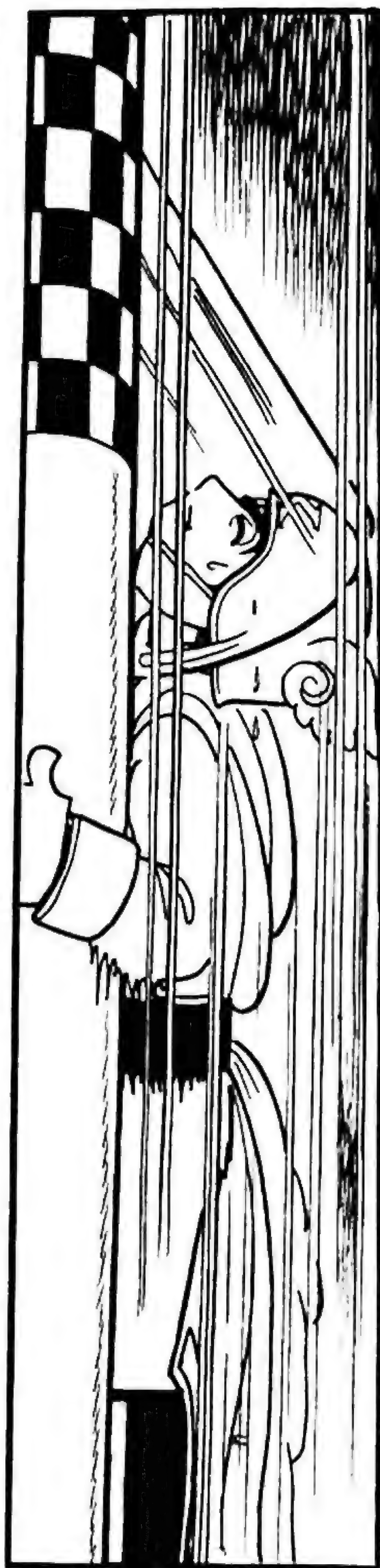

THE FATE OF THE WHOLE WORLD IS DEPENDING ON YOU

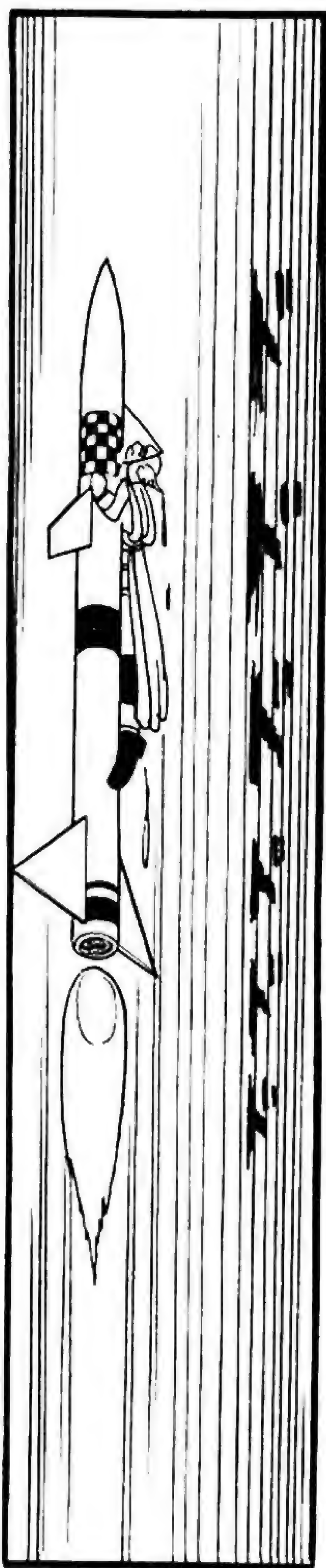

OKAY I'M READY TO DO THIS

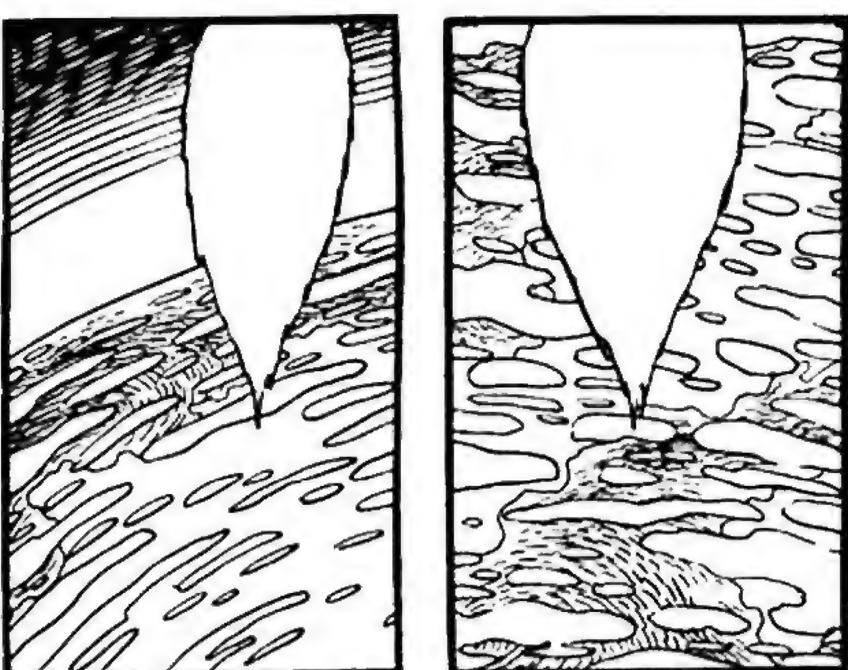

I'LL TAKE IT TO THE SECOND NOTCH ON THE SCALE

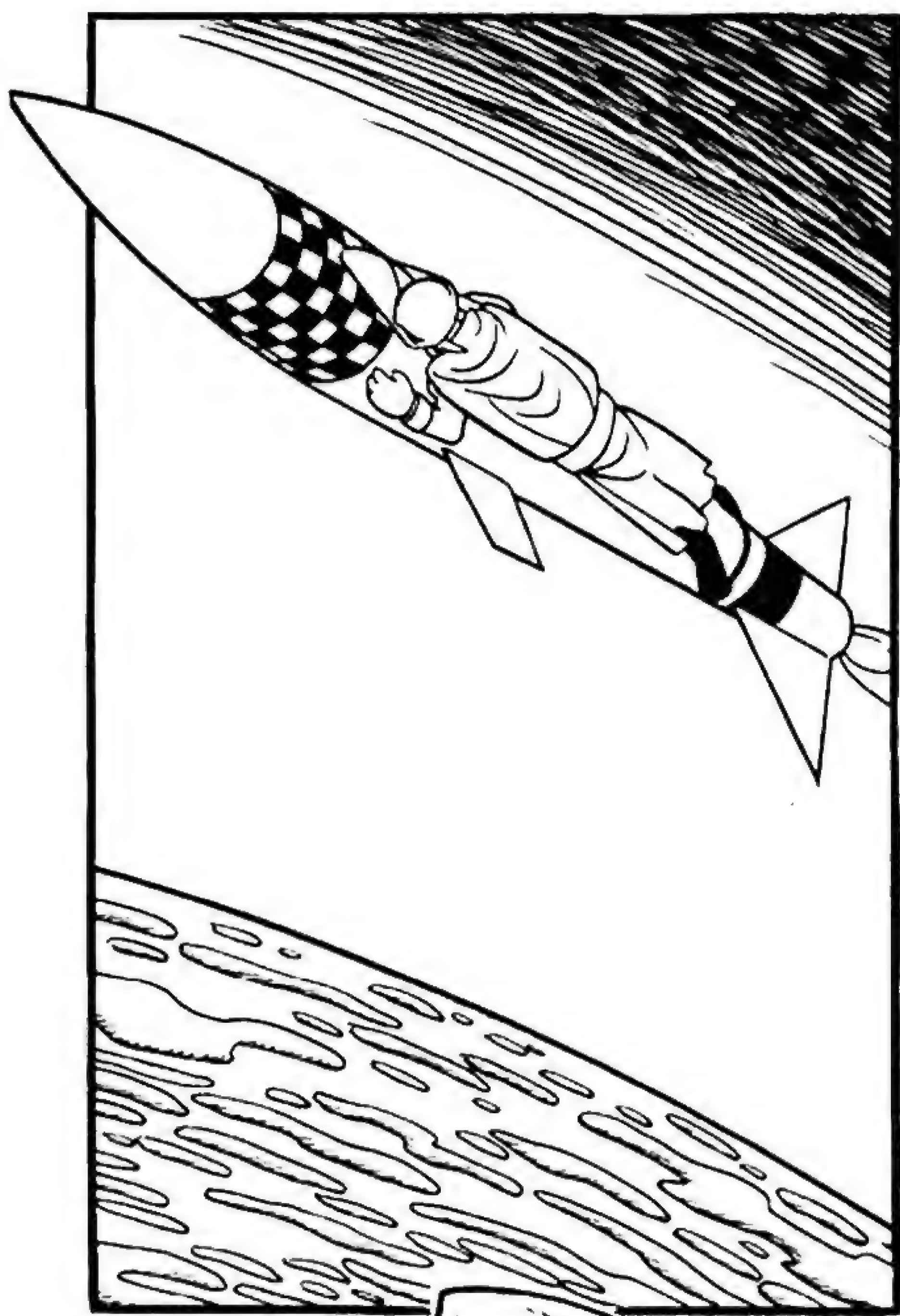

I'LL SEE YOU AGAIN SOON!
GOOD LUCK AKIRA!

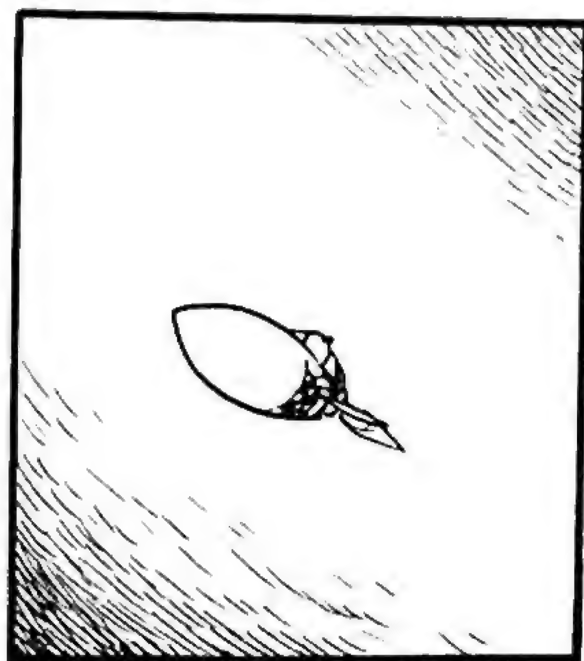


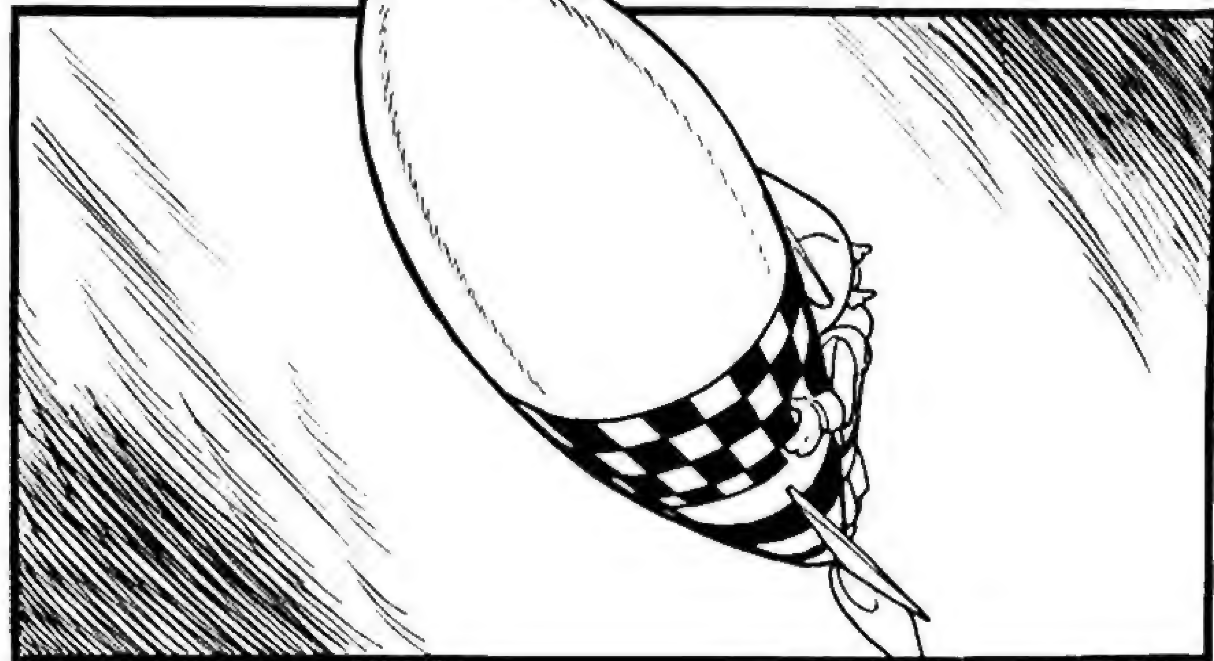



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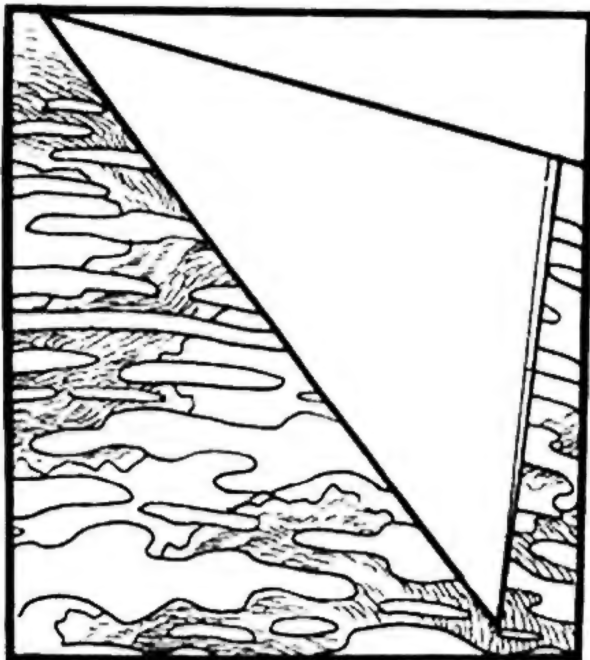
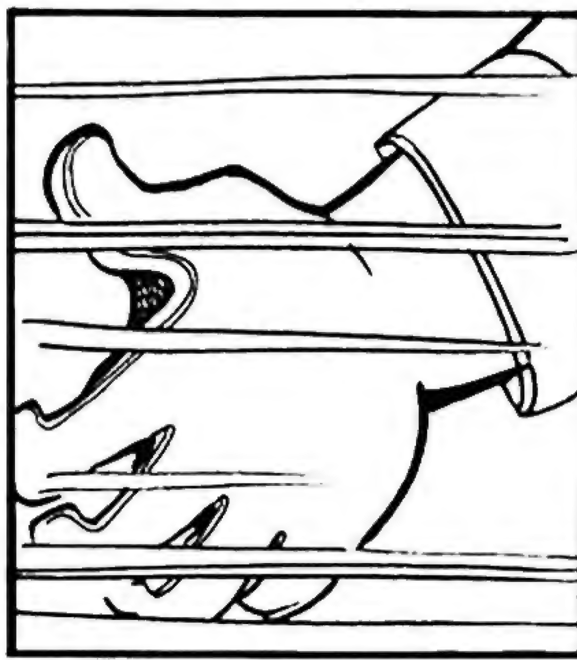




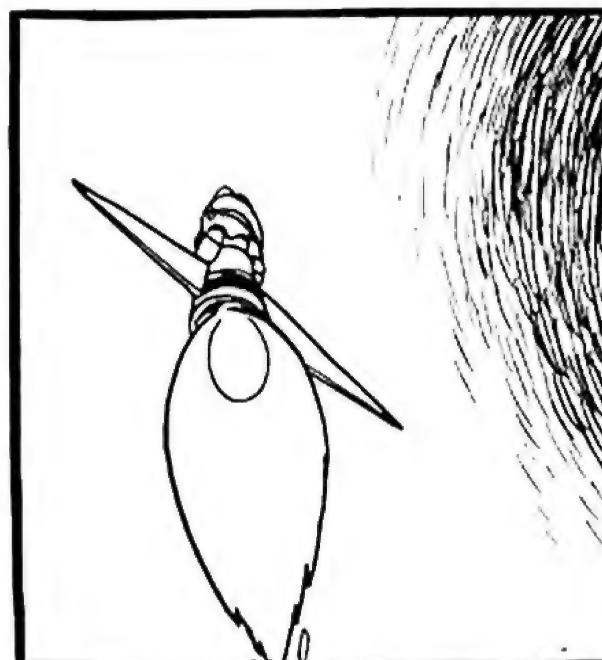
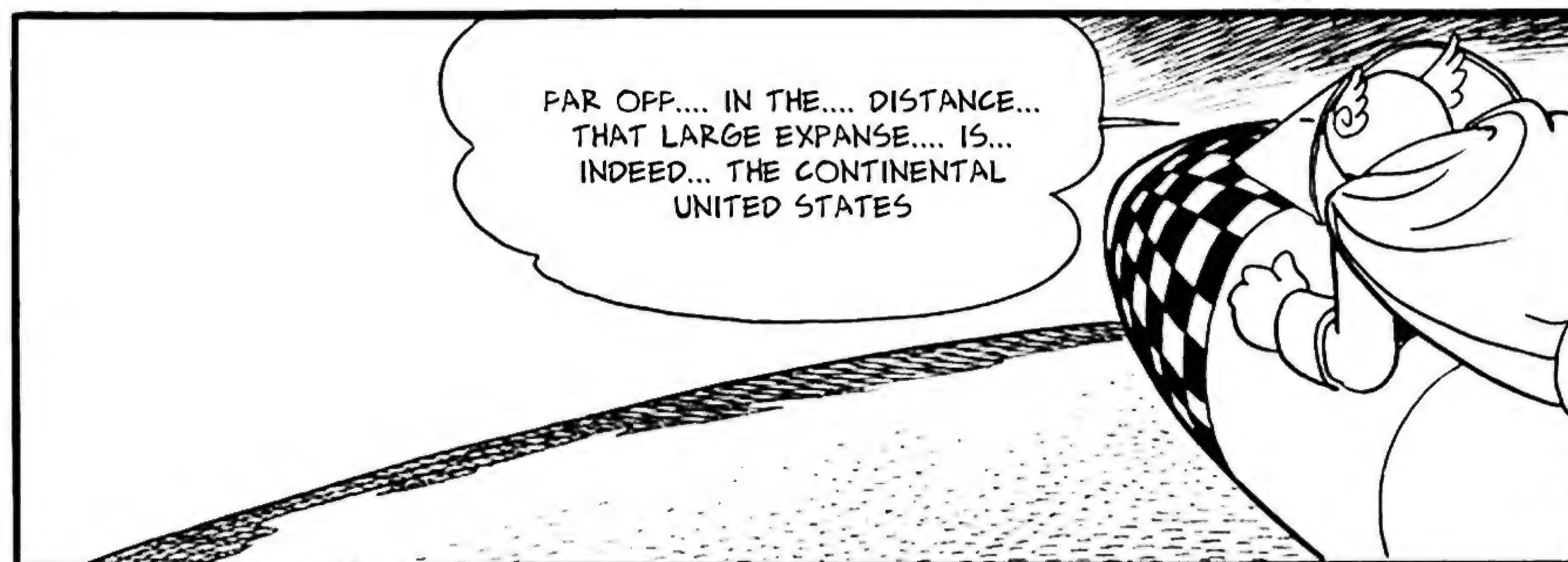
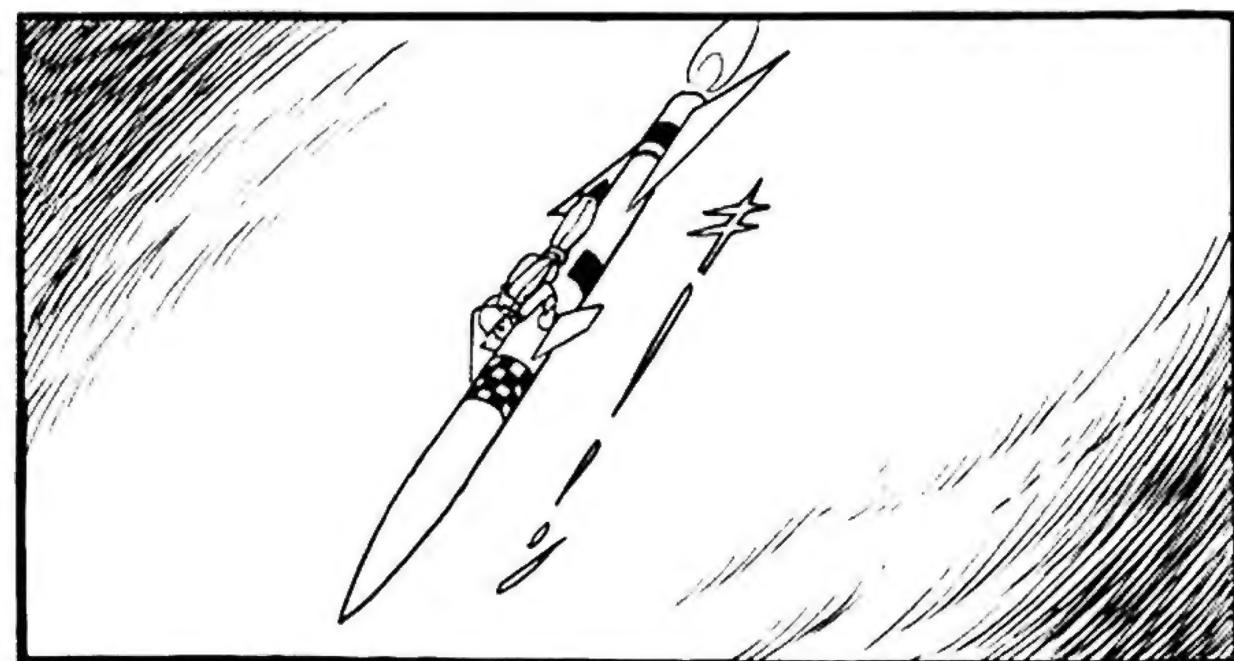


CHAPTER 13

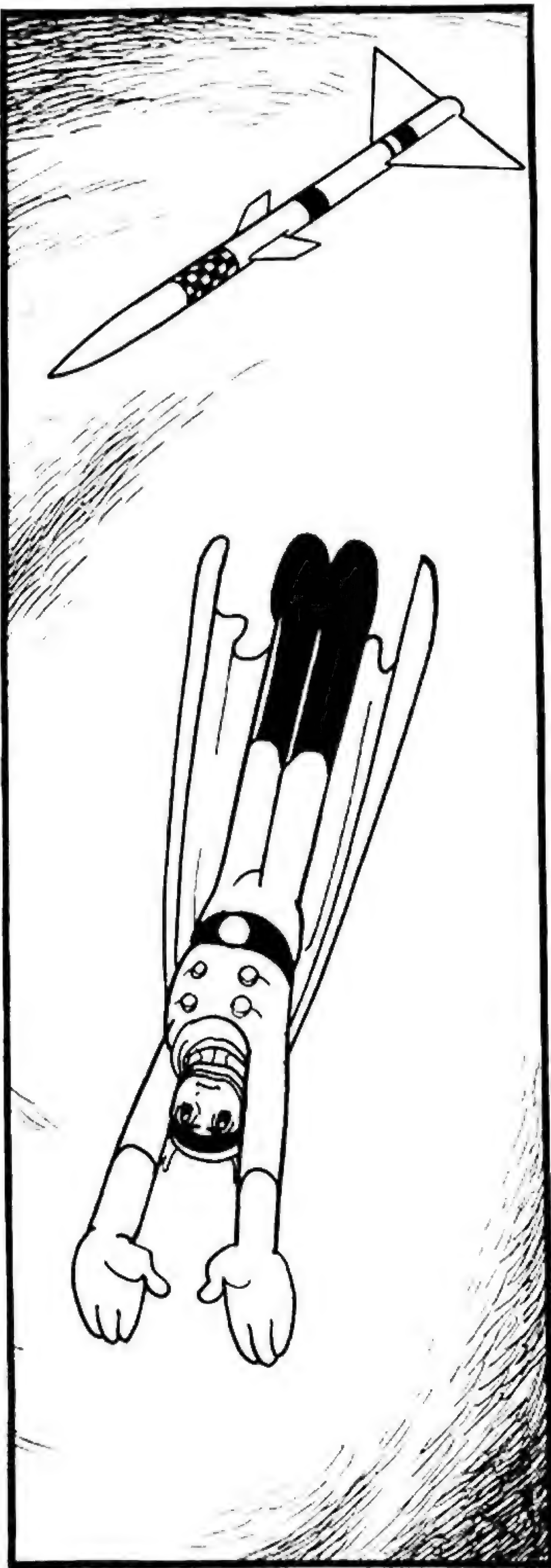
CAPE BARBERA

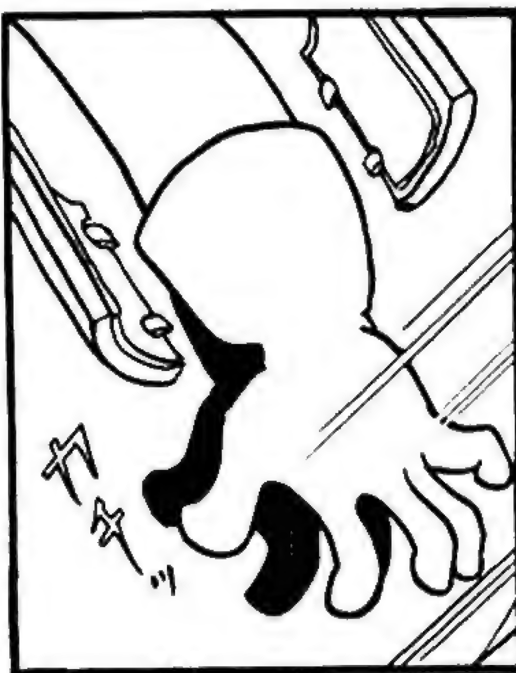



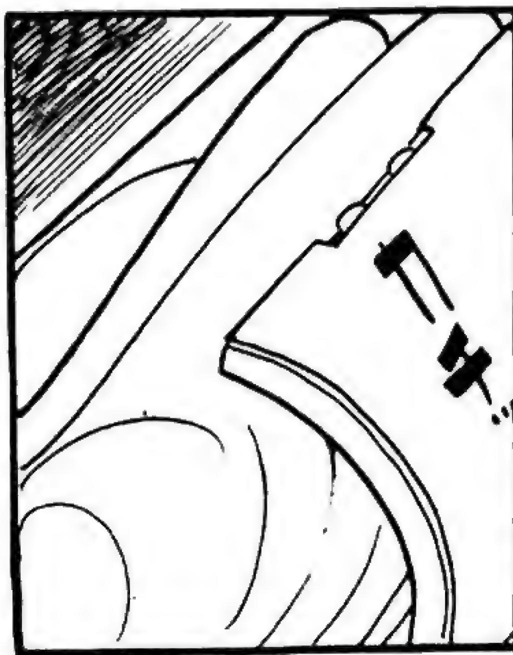

I'VE BEEN UP HERE FOR A WHILE AND THE ROCKET IS AT A DESCENT ANGLE

HUFF


FAR OFF.... IN THE.... DISTANCE... THAT LARGE EXPANSE.... IS... INDEED... THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES


IF RADAR DETECTS ME, I'M DEAD
I HOPE I'M DROPPING AROUND HERE

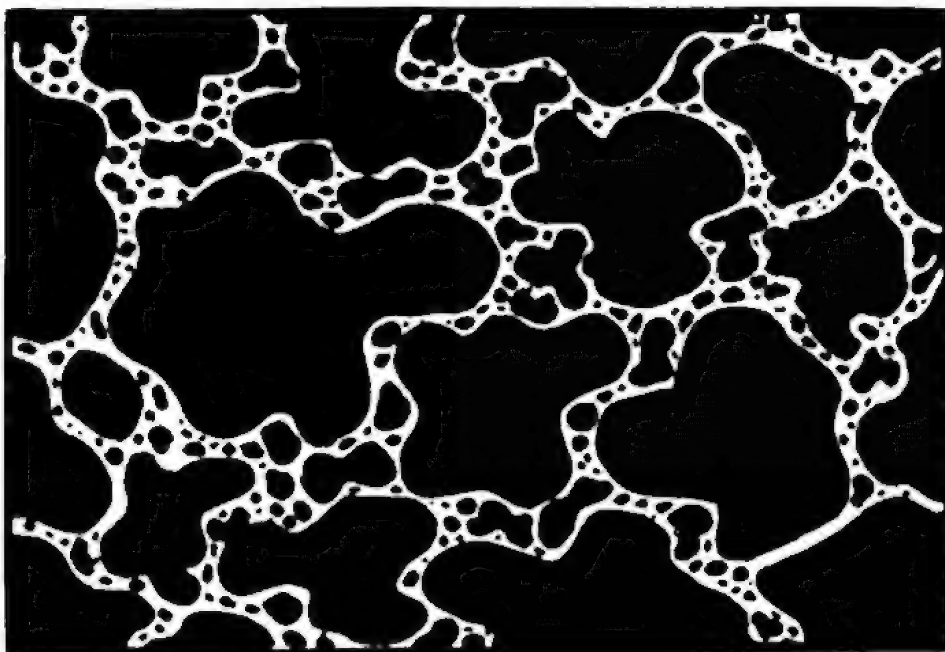


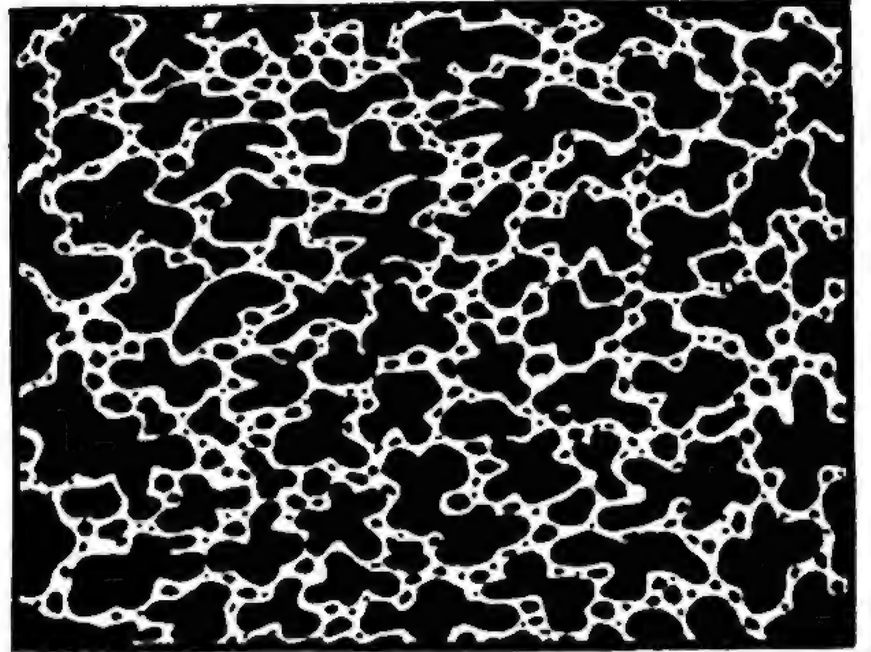

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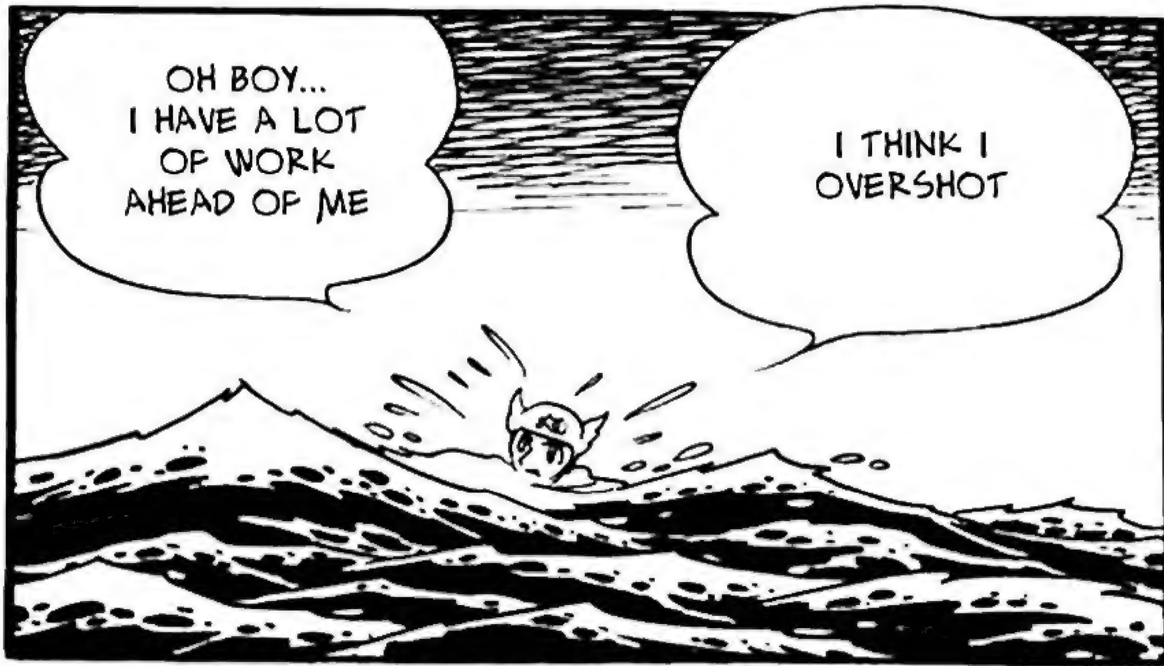


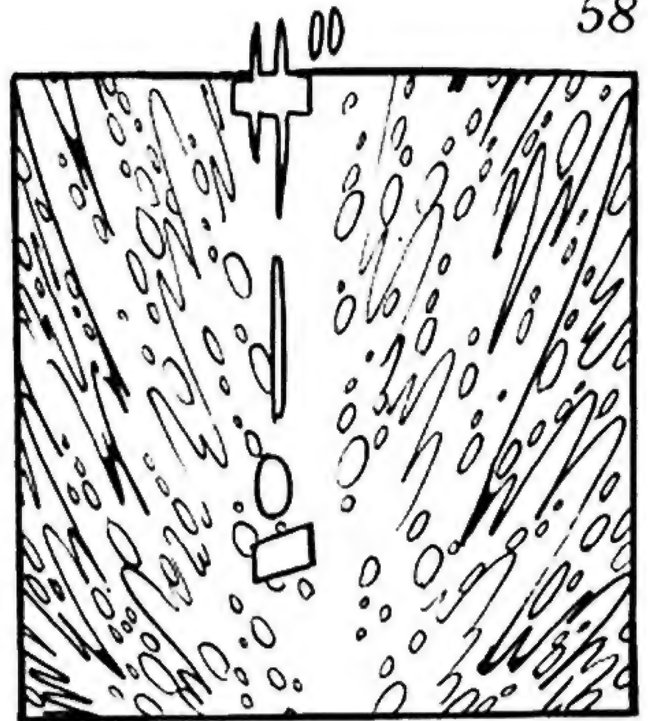

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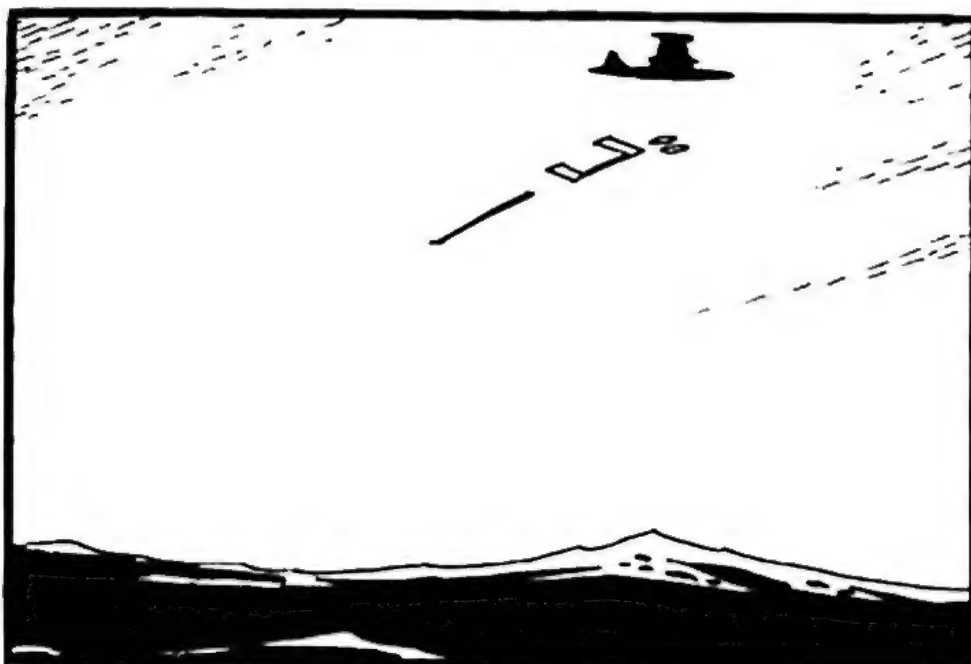

OH BOY...
I HAVE A LOT OF WORK AHEAD OF ME
I THINK I OVERSHOT

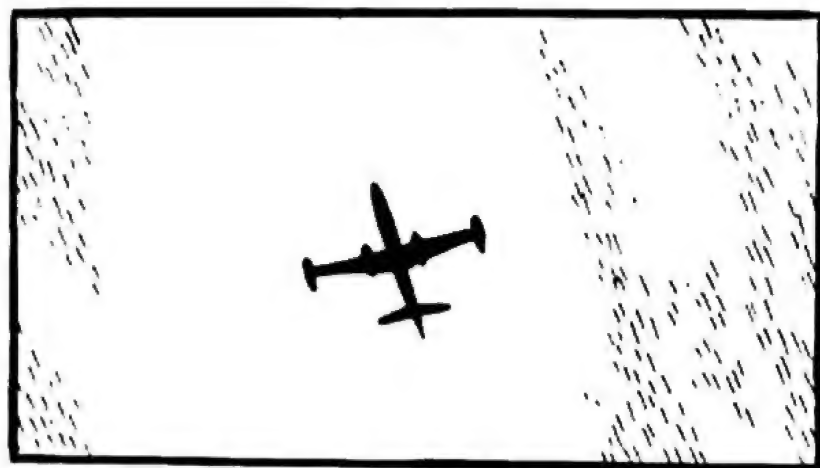




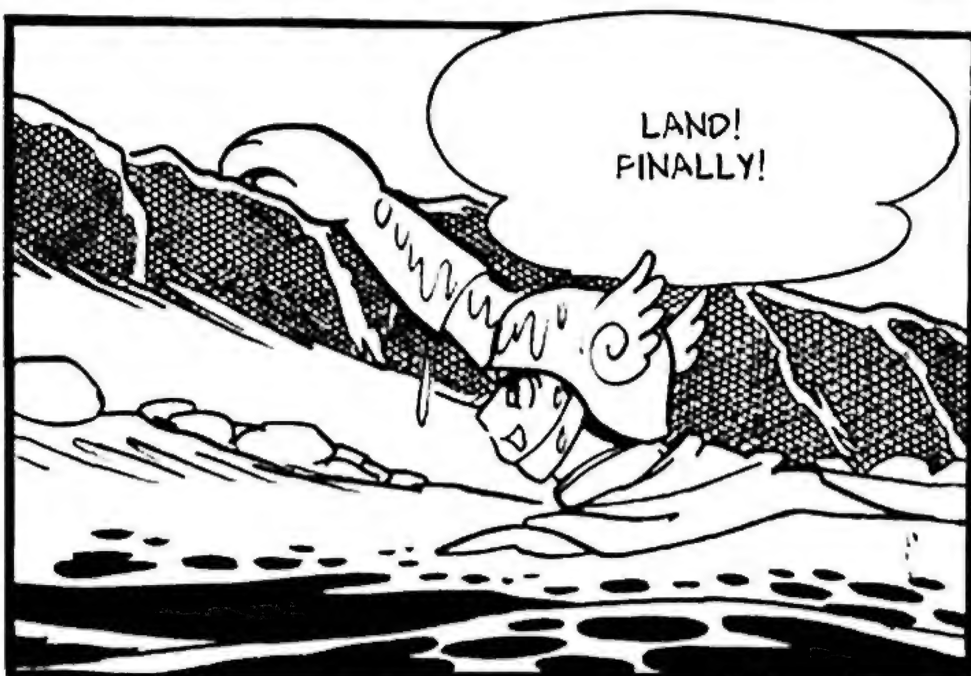


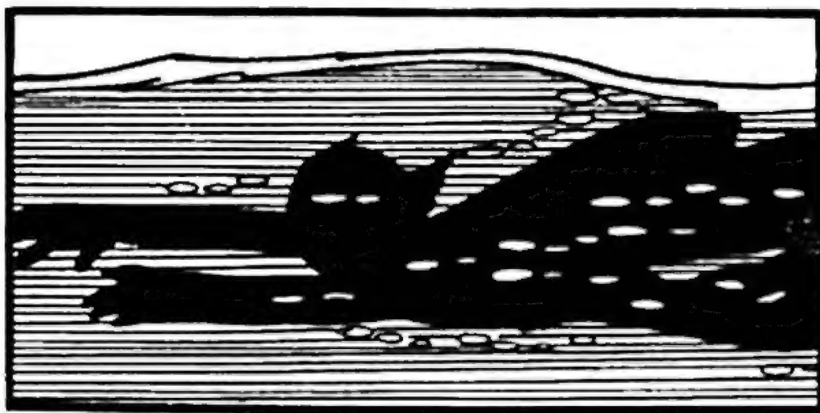

ANOTHER 50 KILOMETERS TO GO...



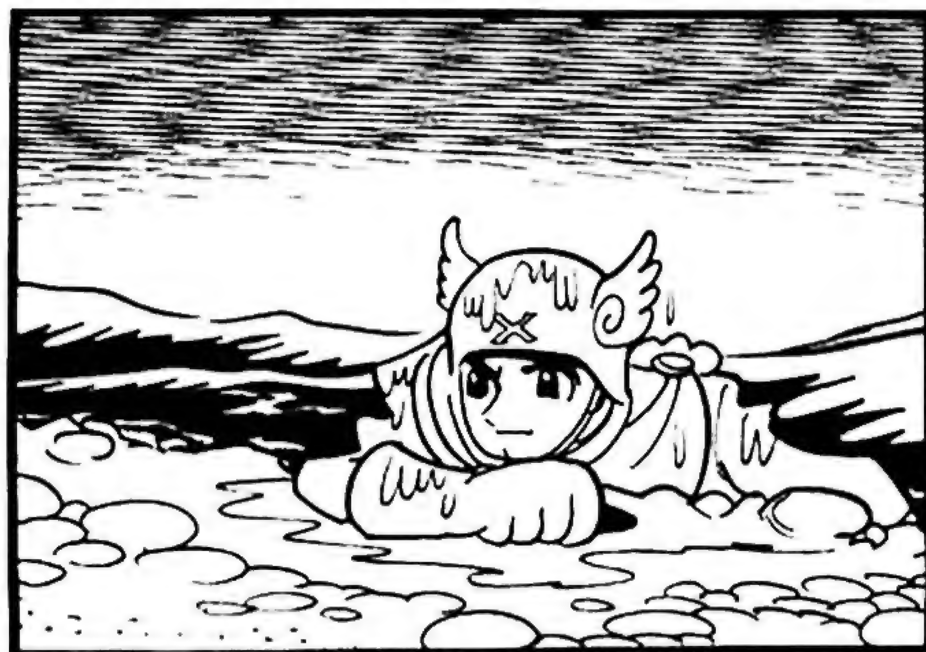



A PATROL PLANE


LAND! FINALLY!

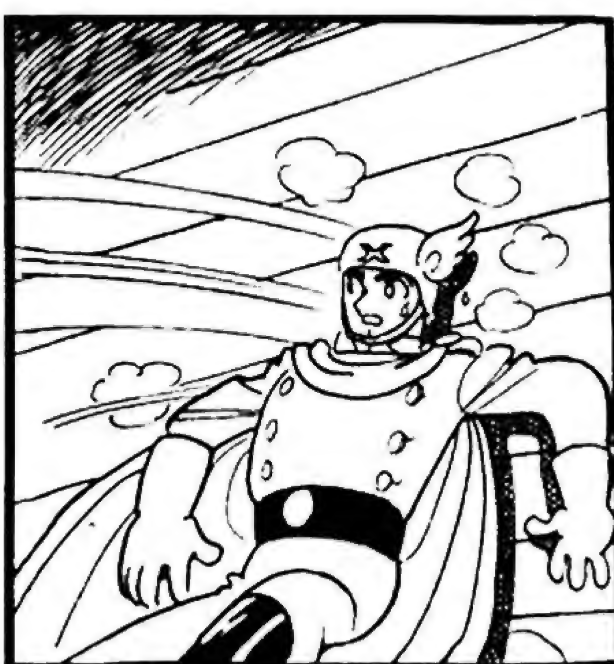


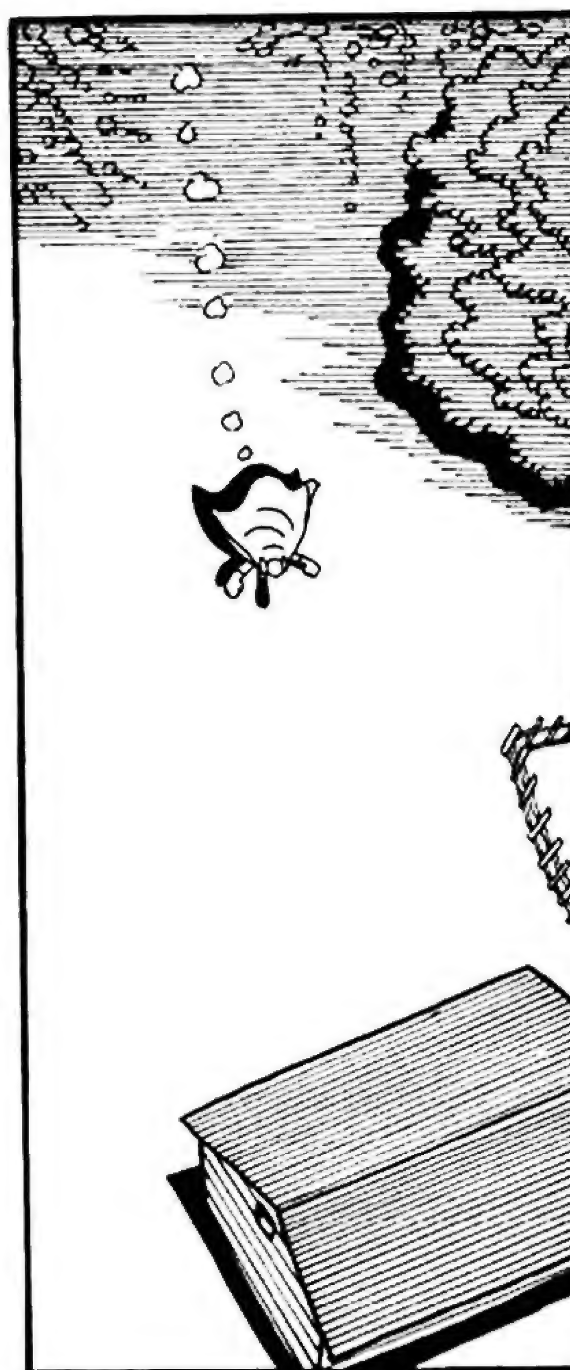




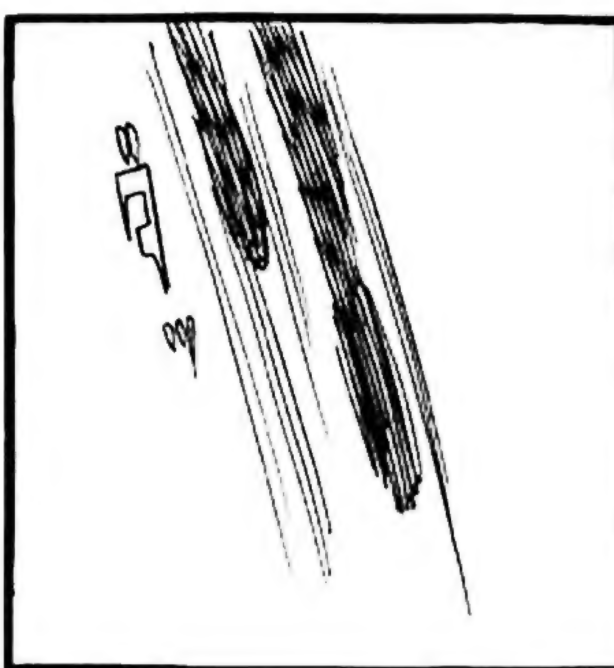


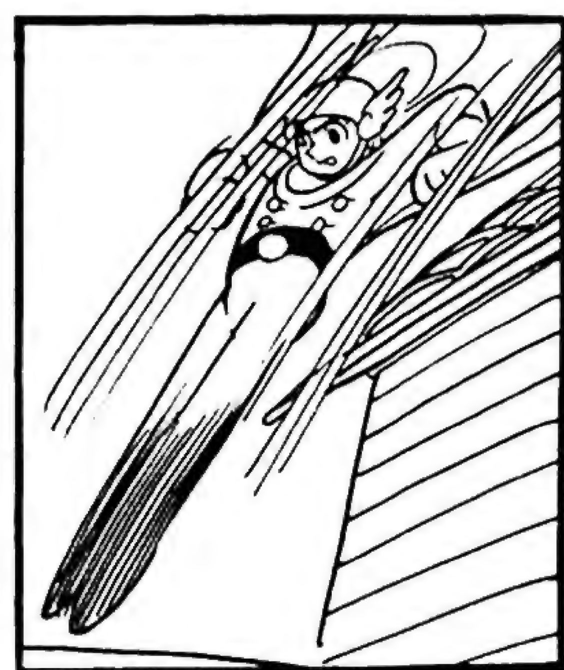

WHO'S THERE?

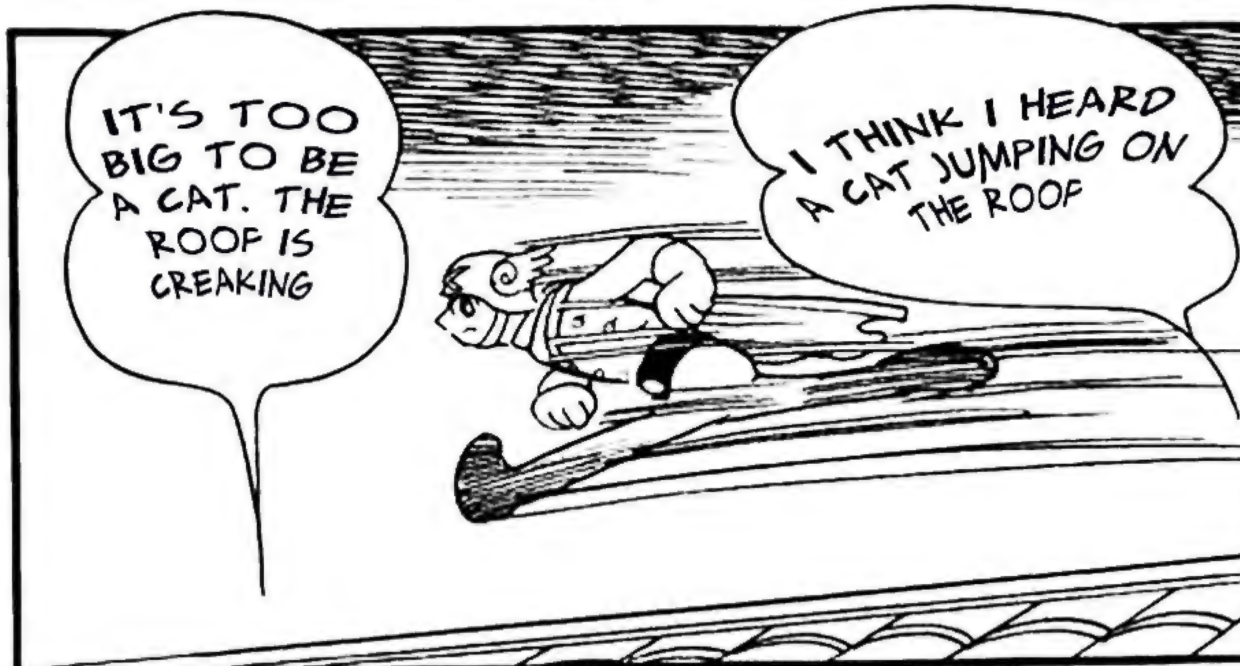






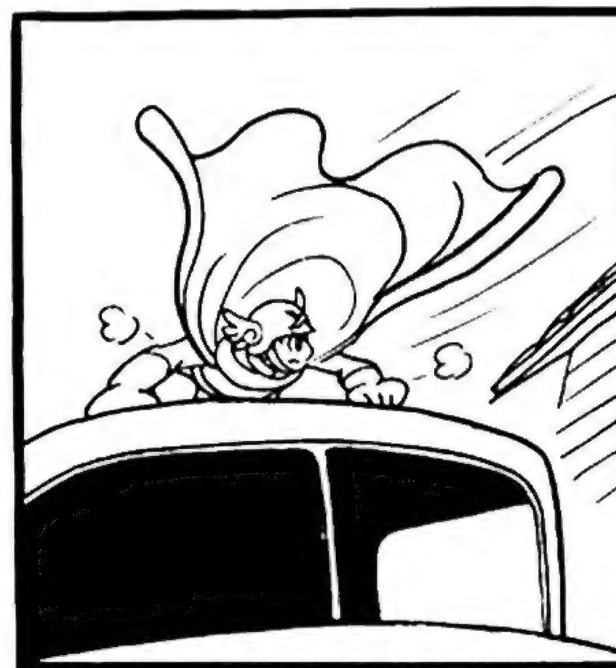




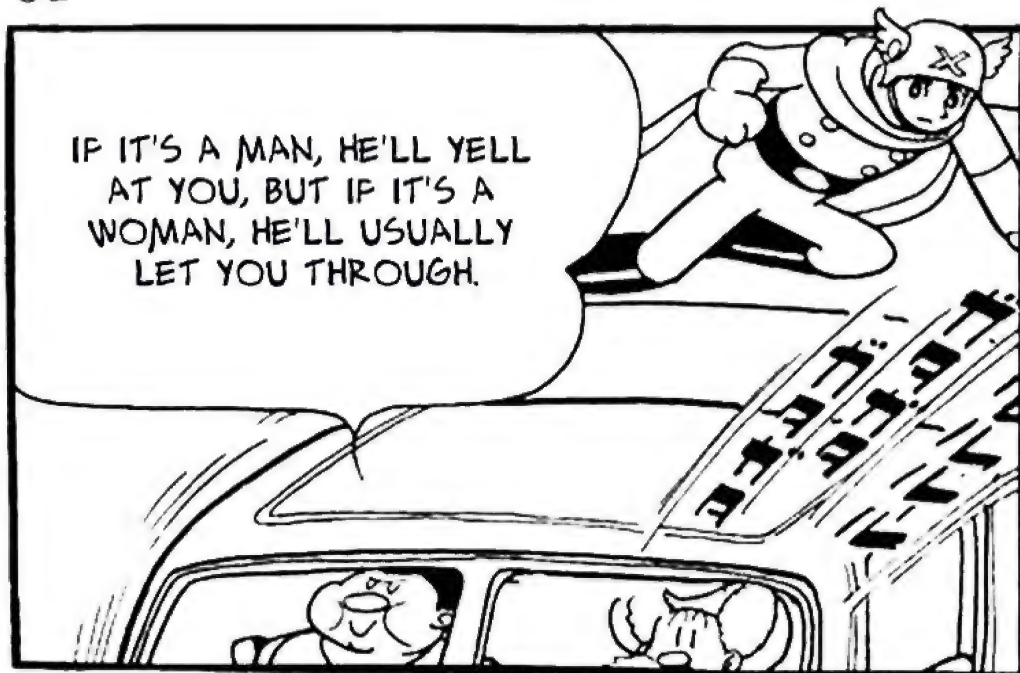

I THINK I HEARD A CAT JUMPING ON THE ROOF
IT'S TOO BIG TO BE A CAT. THE ROOF IS CREAKING

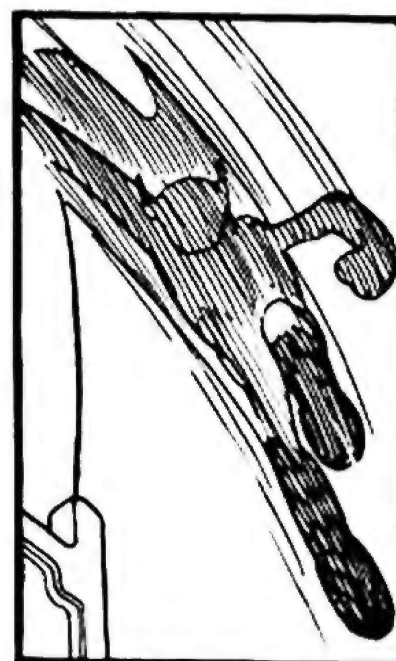

IT'S GETTING DARK
AND? ARE YOU PLANNING TO ROB THE STORE?


I NEED TO GO OVER THE MOUNTAIN TO BUY SOME STUFF. SO WOULD YOU MIND DRIVING?

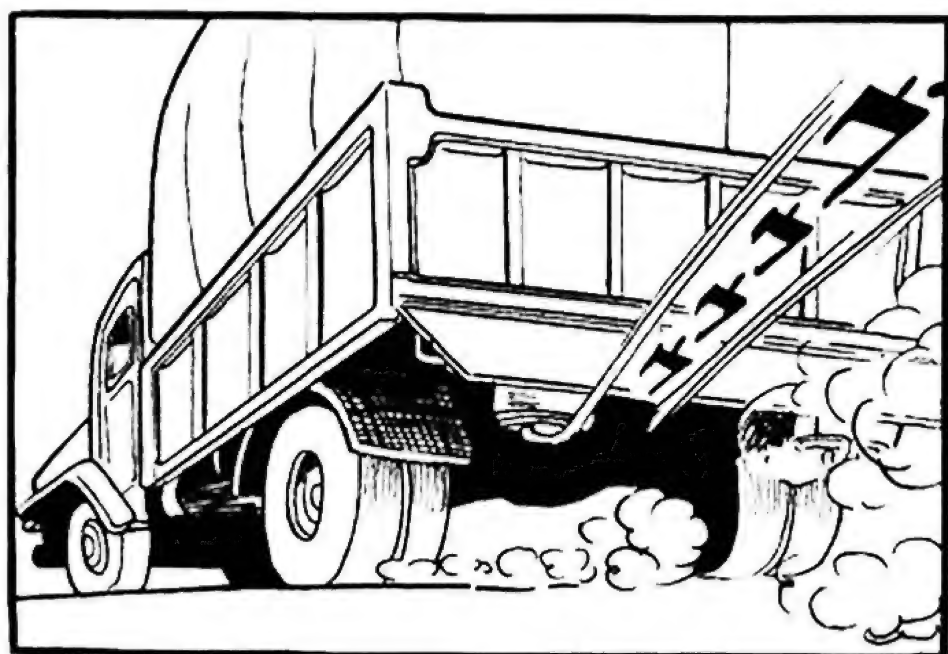


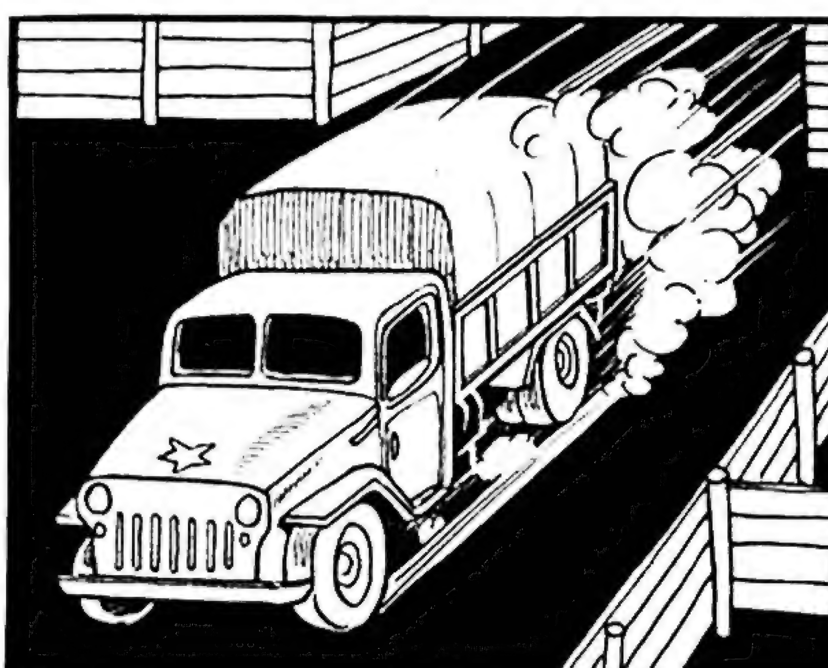

THERE'S A GUARDHOUSE ON THE WAY TO THE CAPE BARBERA BASE, AND IF WE PASS THROUGH THERE AT NIGHT, WE'LL GET YELLED AT.

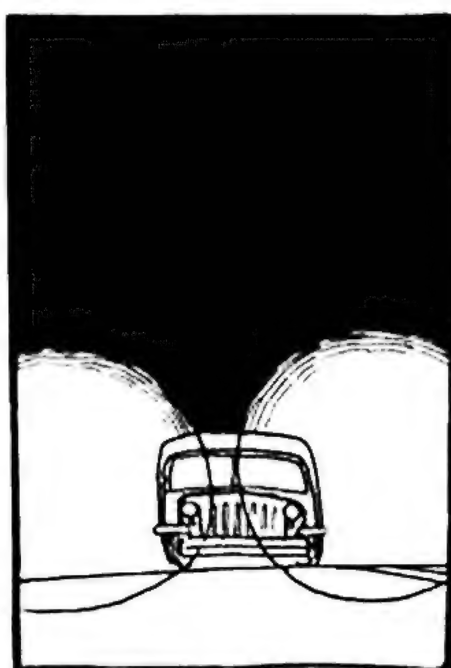

IF IT'S A MAN, HE'LL YELL AT YOU, BUT IF IT'S A WOMAN, HE'LL USUALLY LET YOU THROUGH.

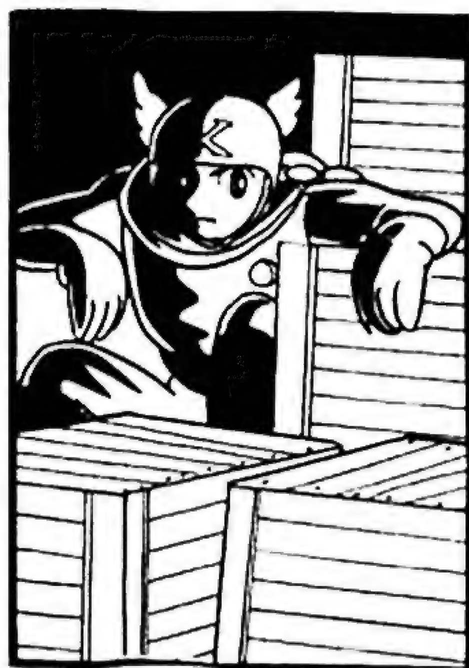


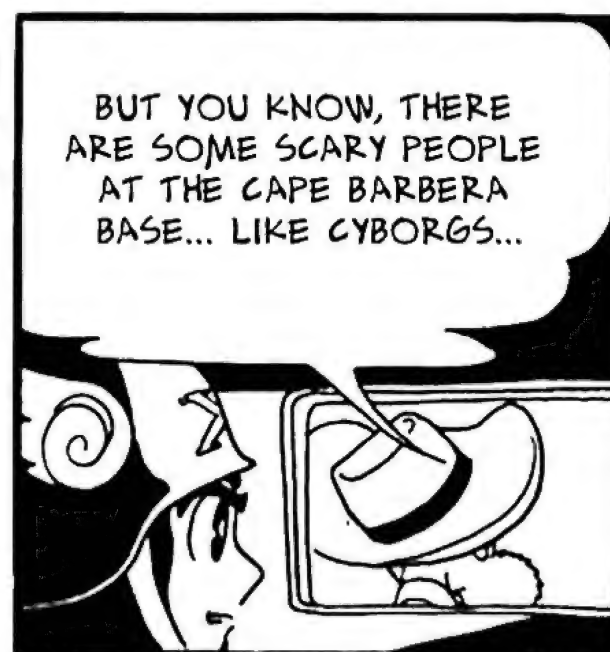


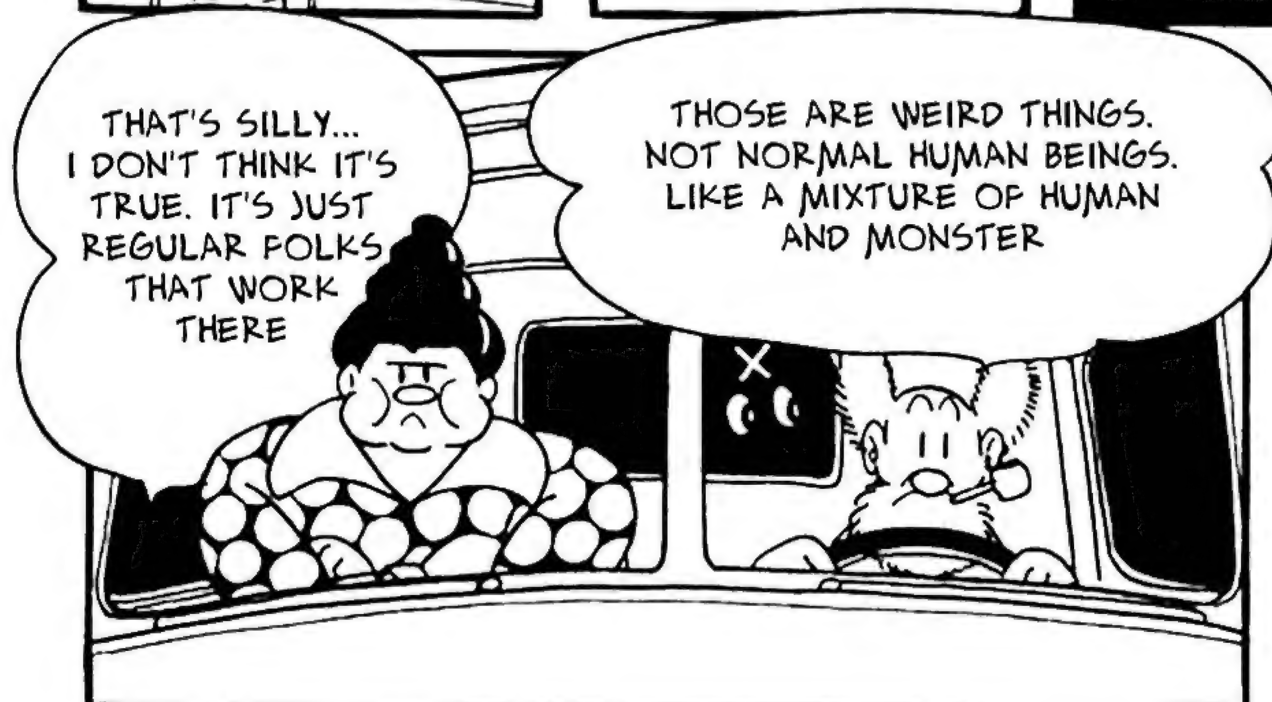


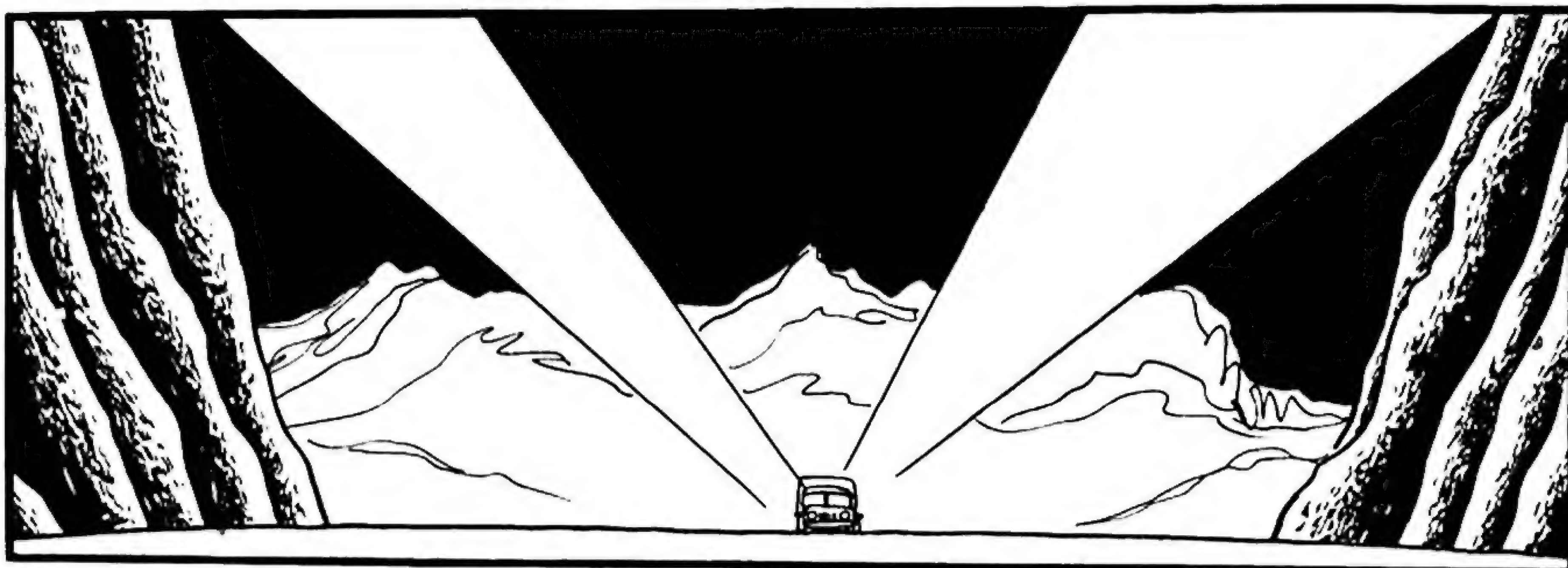






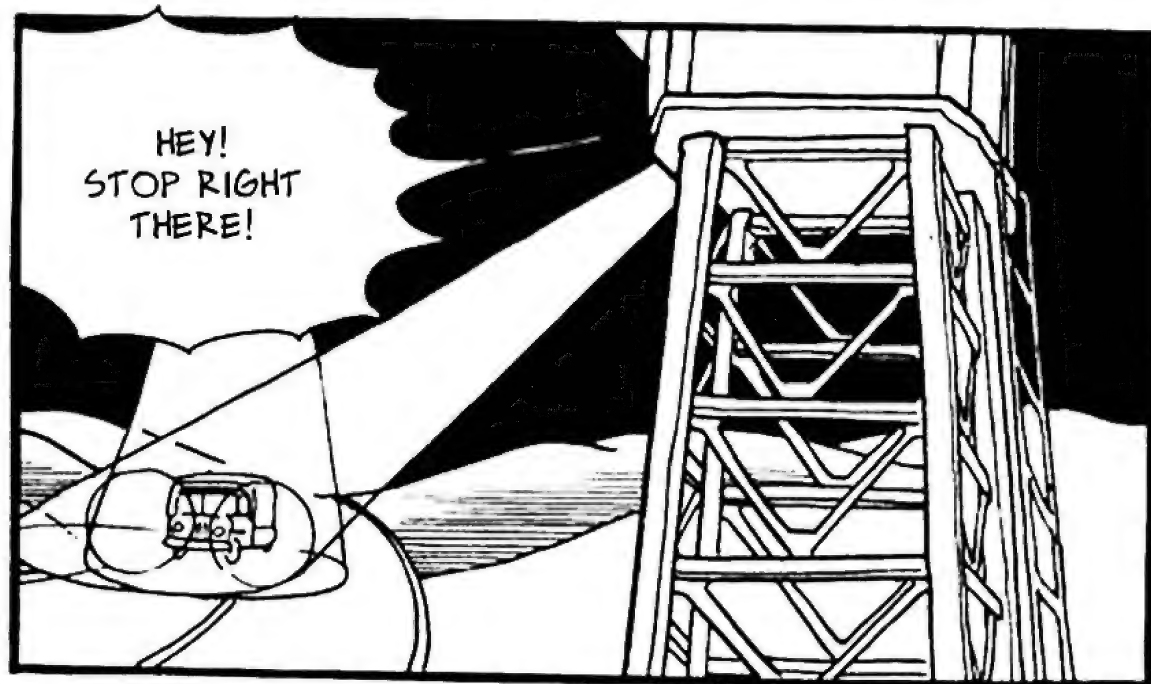

BUT YOU KNOW, THERE ARE SOME SCARY PEOPLE AT THE CAPE BARBERA BASE... LIKE CYBORGS...

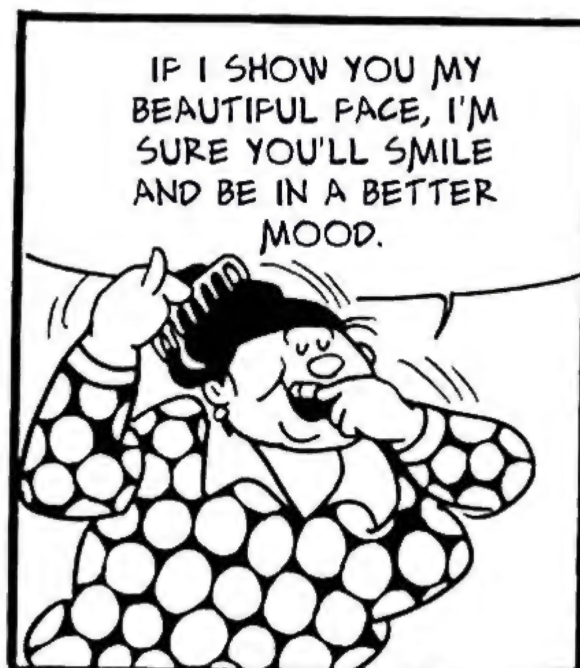

THOSE ARE WEIRD THINGS. NOT NORMAL HUMAN BEINGS. LIKE A MIXTURE OF HUMAN AND MONSTER
THAT'S SILLY... I DON'T THINK IT'S TRUE. IT'S JUST REGULAR FOLKS THAT WORK THERE

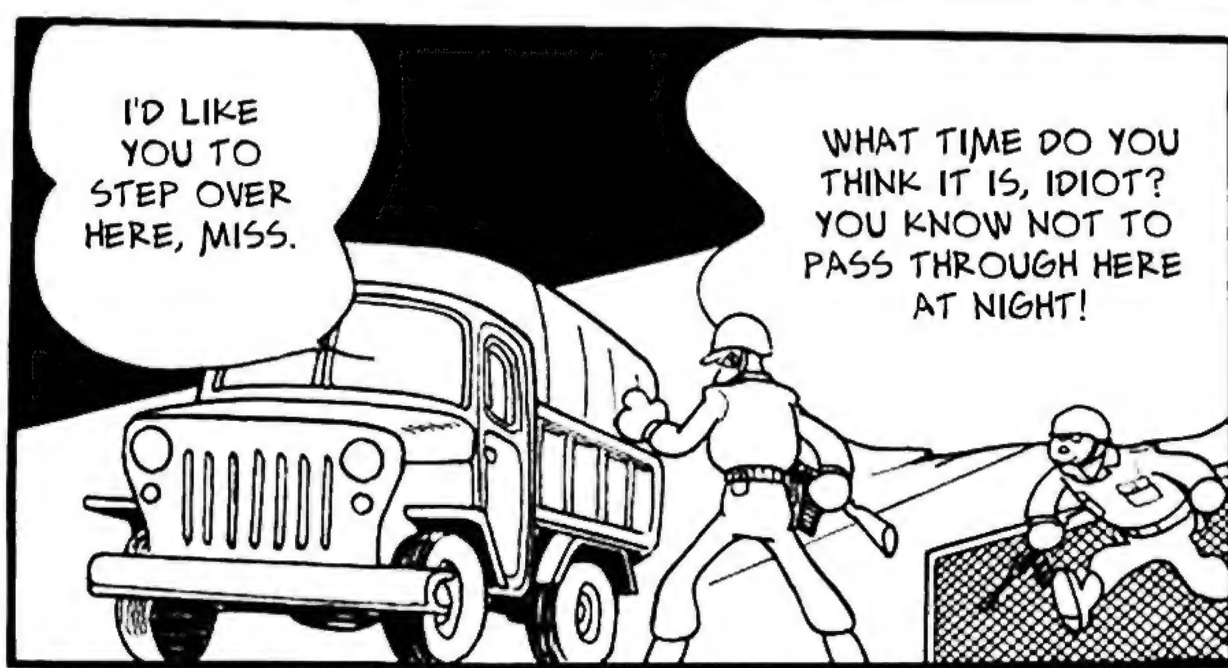



YOU THINK THAT'S HOW THEY ARE GUARDING THE INSIDE OF CAPE BARBERA BASE?
YEAH YEAH, THERE'S CYBORGS THERE. I THINK THEY'RE CALLED CYBORGS...



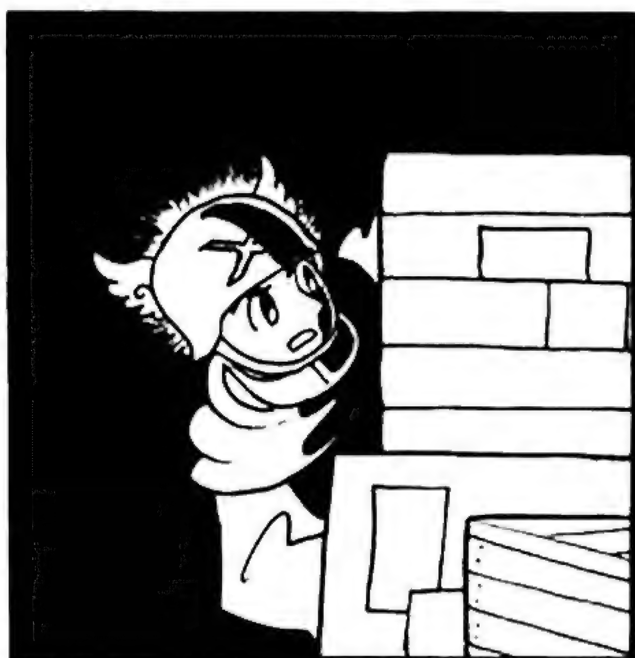

HEY! STOP RIGHT THERE!


IF I SHOW YOU MY BEAUTIFUL FACE, I'M SURE YOU'LL SMILE AND BE IN A BETTER MOOD.


I'D LIKE YOU TO STEP OVER HERE, MISS.
WHAT TIME DO YOU THINK IT IS, IDIOT? YOU KNOW NOT TO PASS THROUGH HERE AT NIGHT!

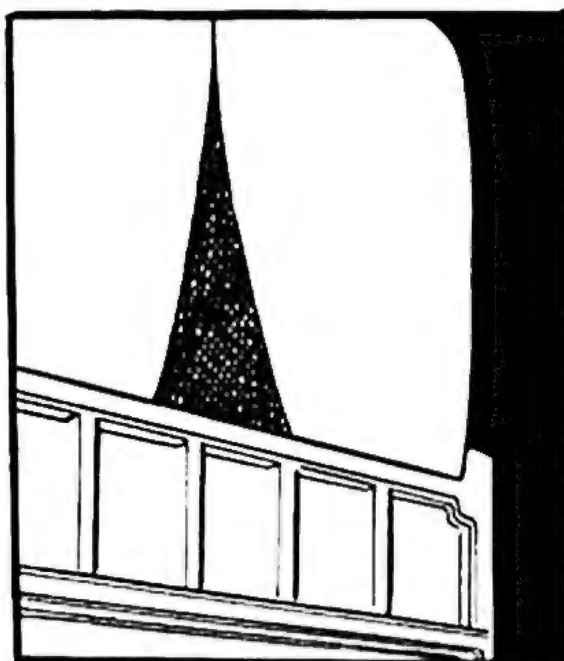

EEESH! I'M ALL CREEPED OUT!
A-A-A GHOST!

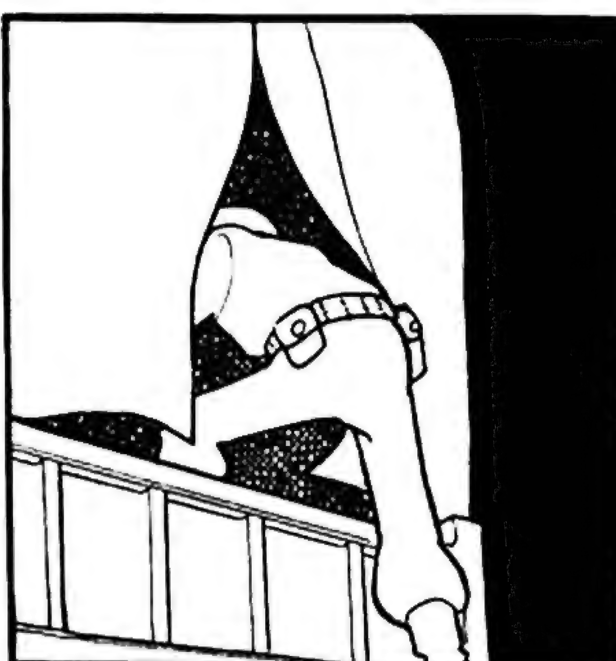

HEHEHE, ISN'T IT OKAY IF WE GO AHEAD?



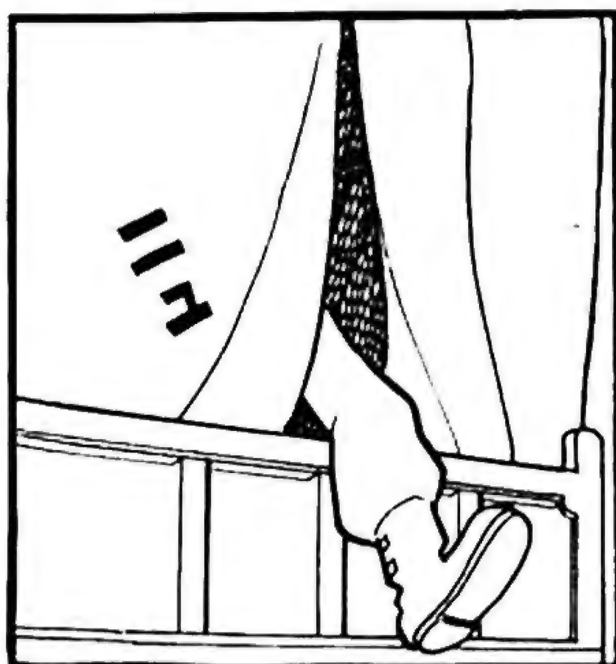

WAIT A MINUTE... WE NEED TO CHECK THE CARGO FIRST


OKAY OKAY GET GOING!

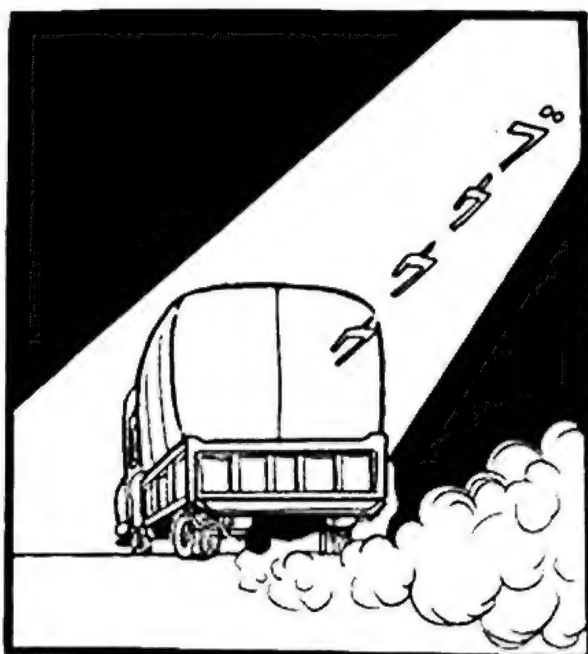






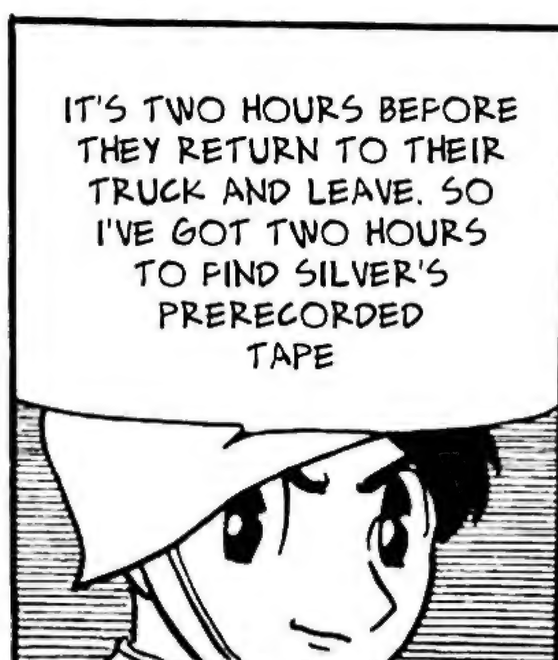



?
OOF

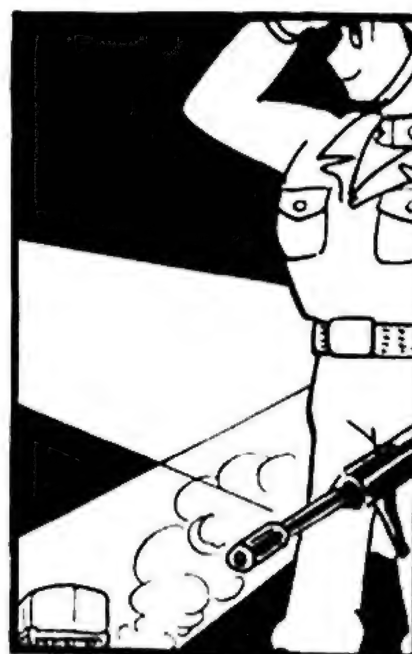



ALL RIGHT
COME ON,
LET'S GO


ストッ！


IT'S TWO HOURS BEFORE THEY RETURN TO THEIR TRUCK AND LEAVE. SO I'VE GOT TWO HOURS TO FIND SILVER'S PRERECORDED TAPE


……

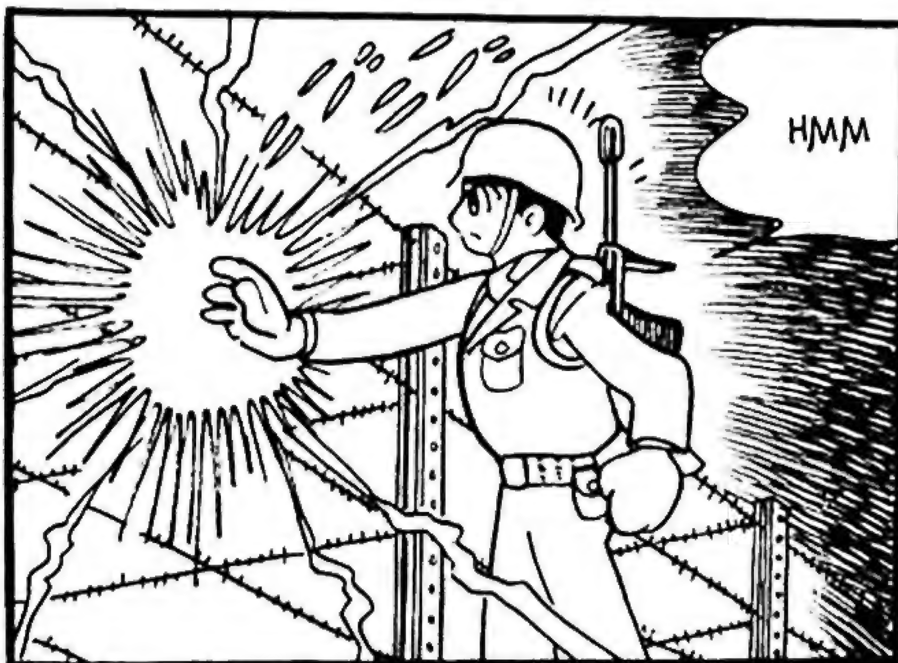


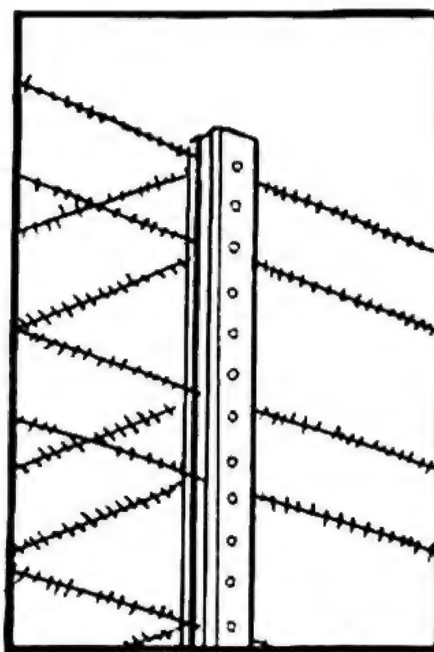


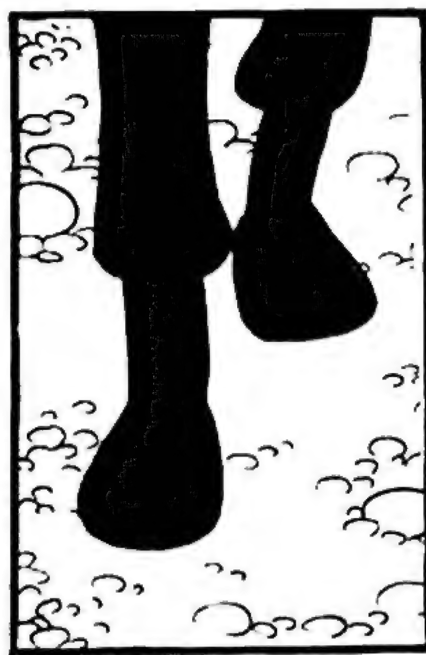


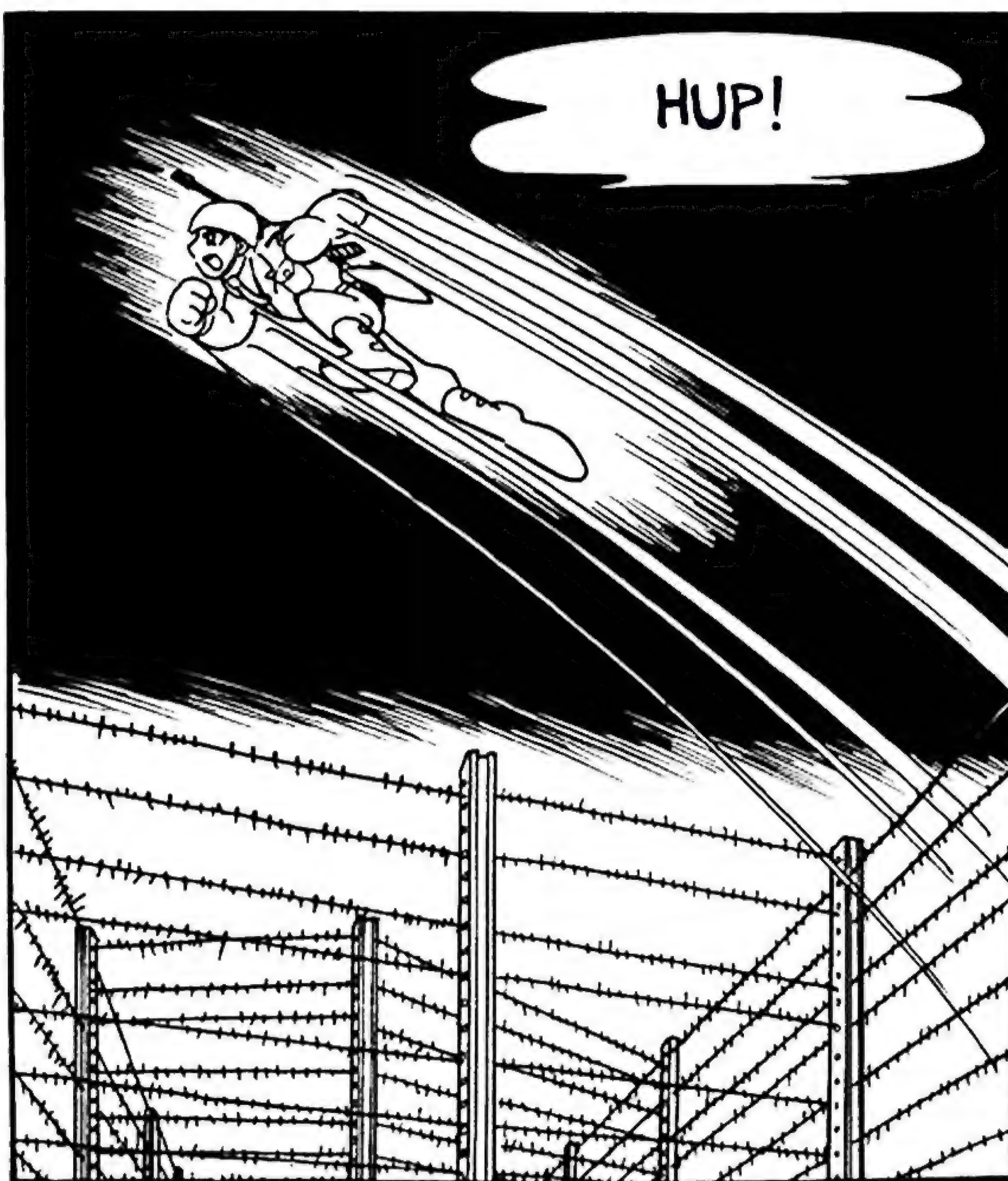


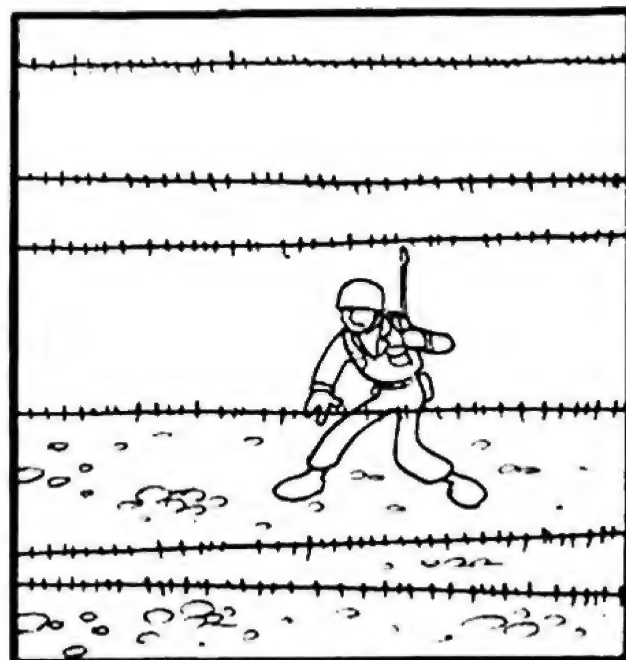

HM, SO THIS
IS CAMP BARBERA
BASE

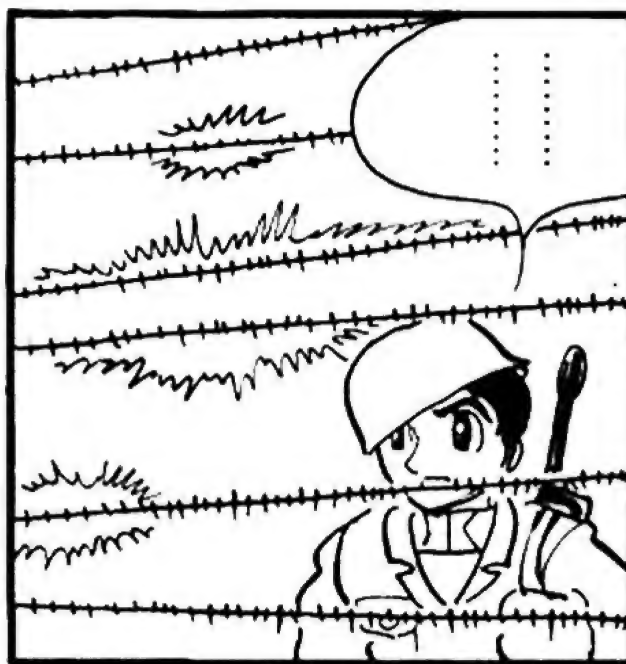

HMM

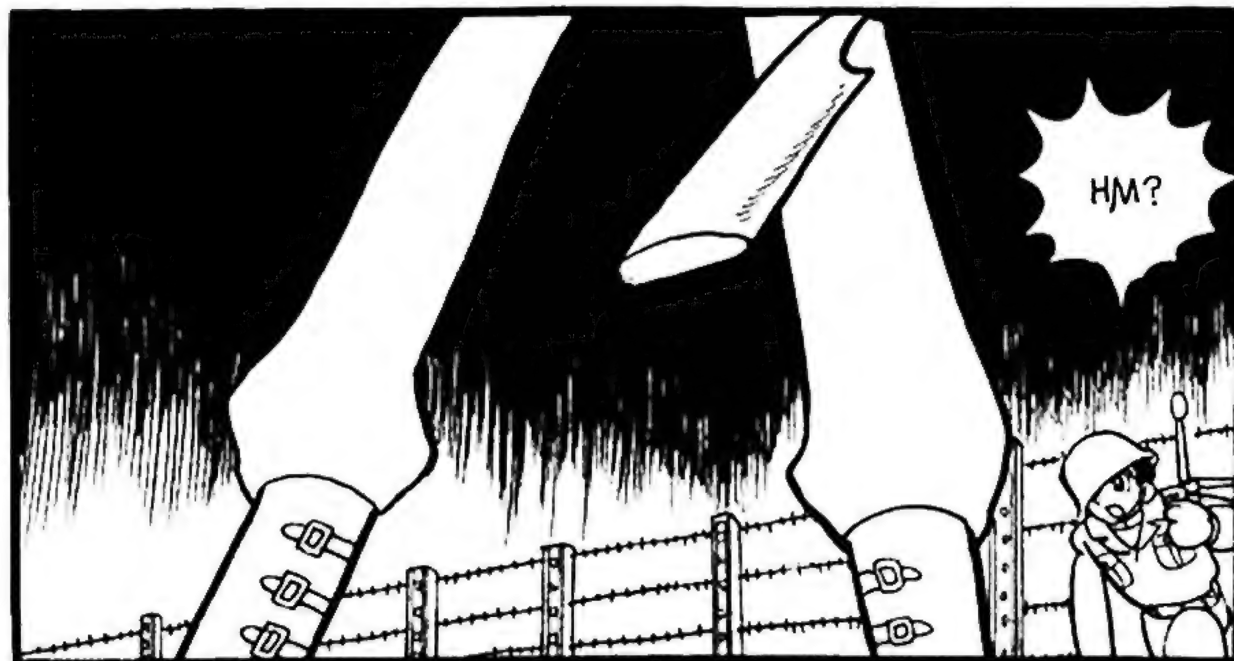


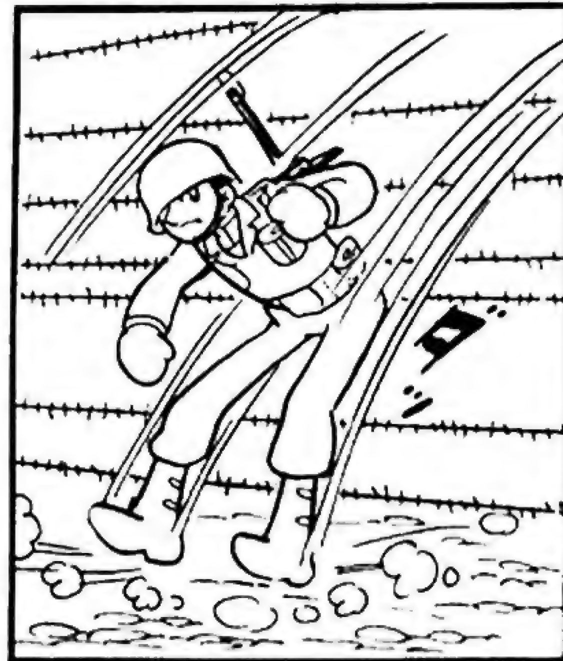



HUP!

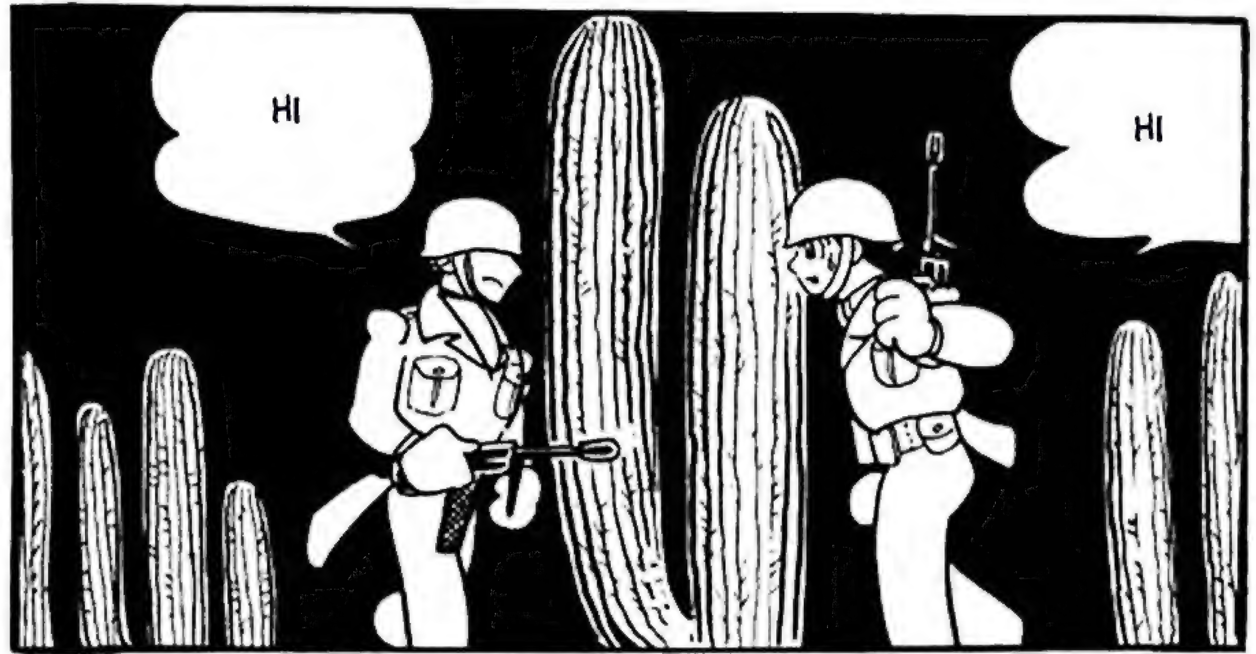


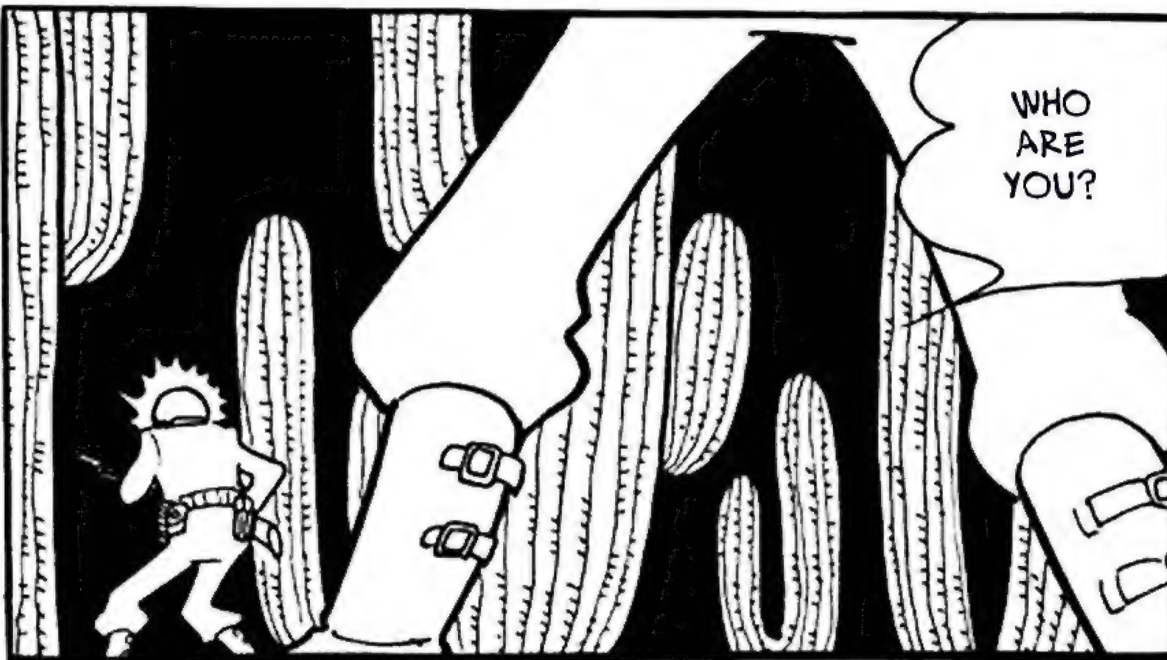

......


HM?

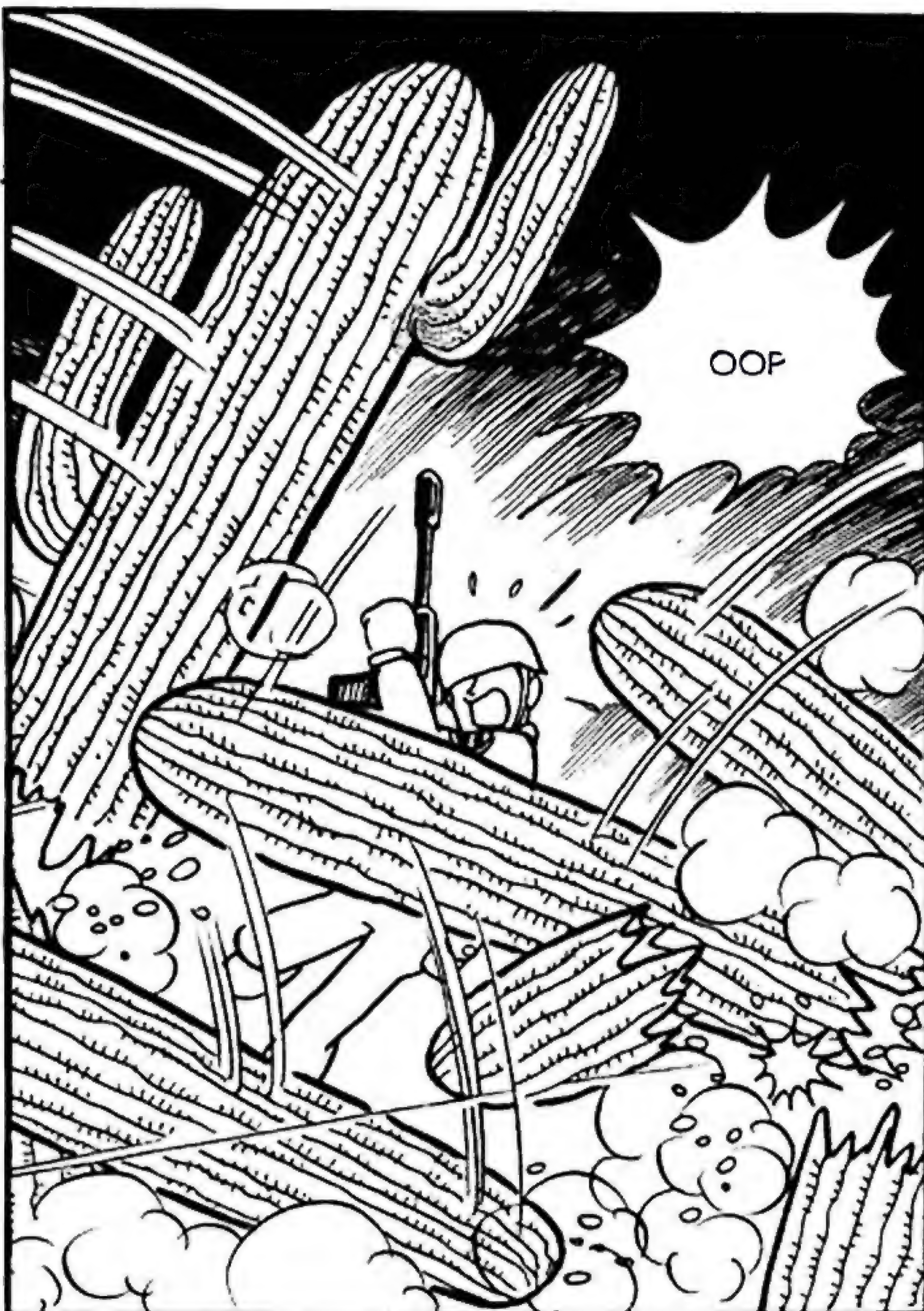


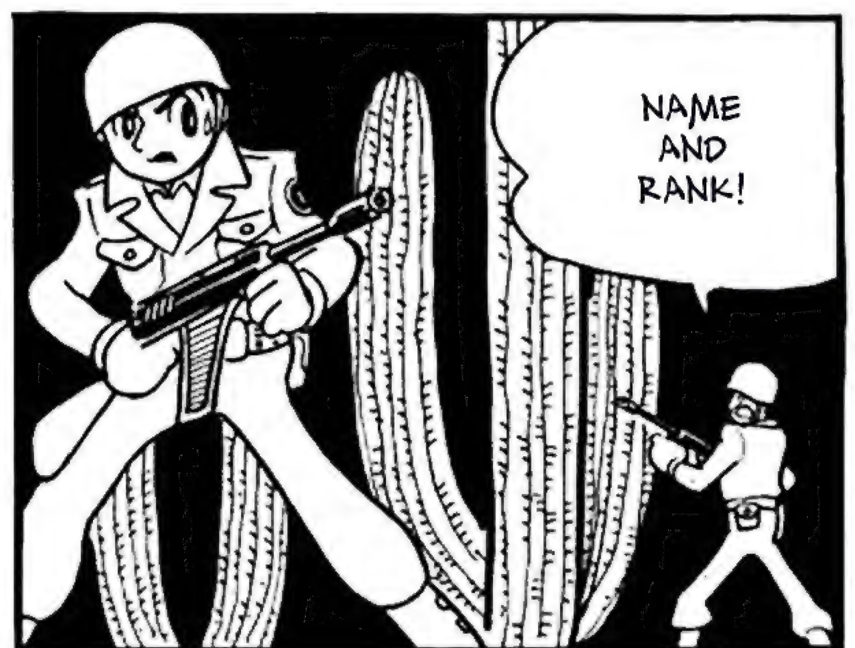

"HI"!?!

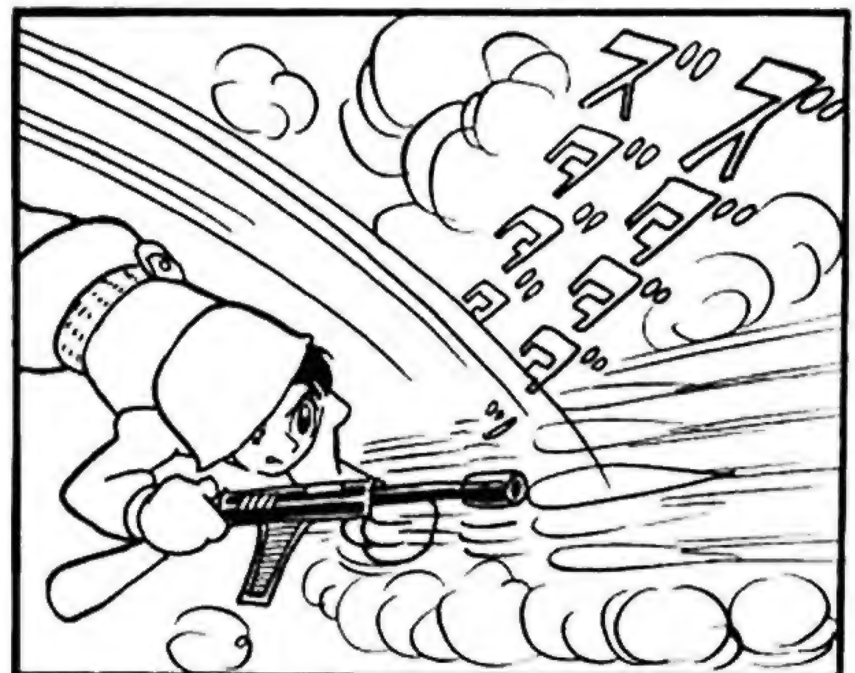

HI
HI

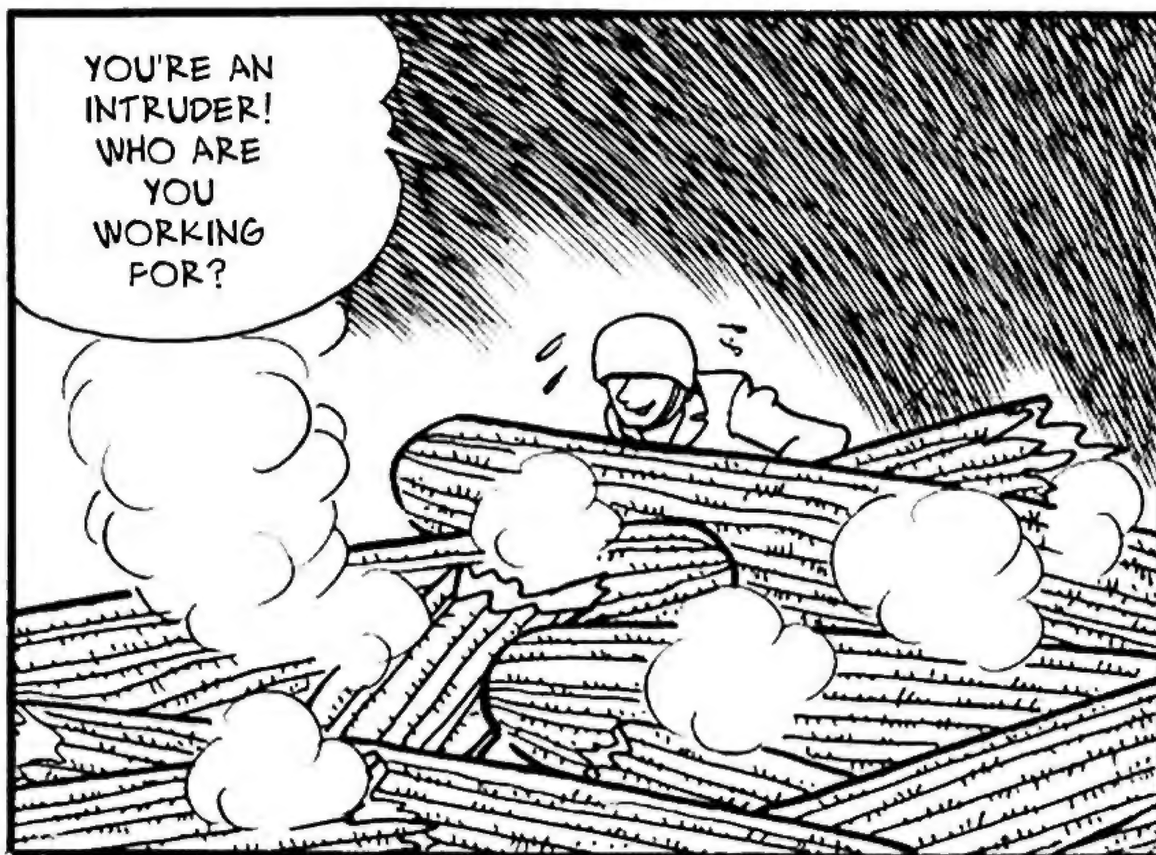

WHO ARE YOU?

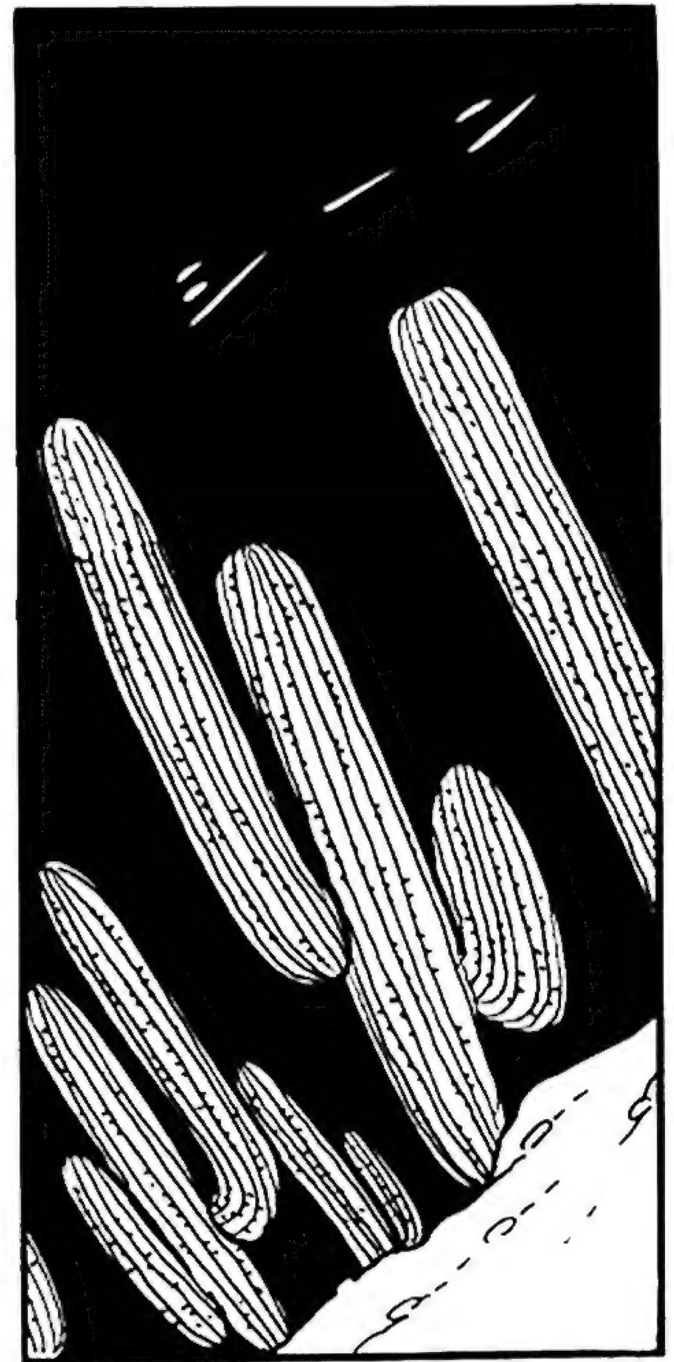

SHIT


OOF


NAME AND RANK!



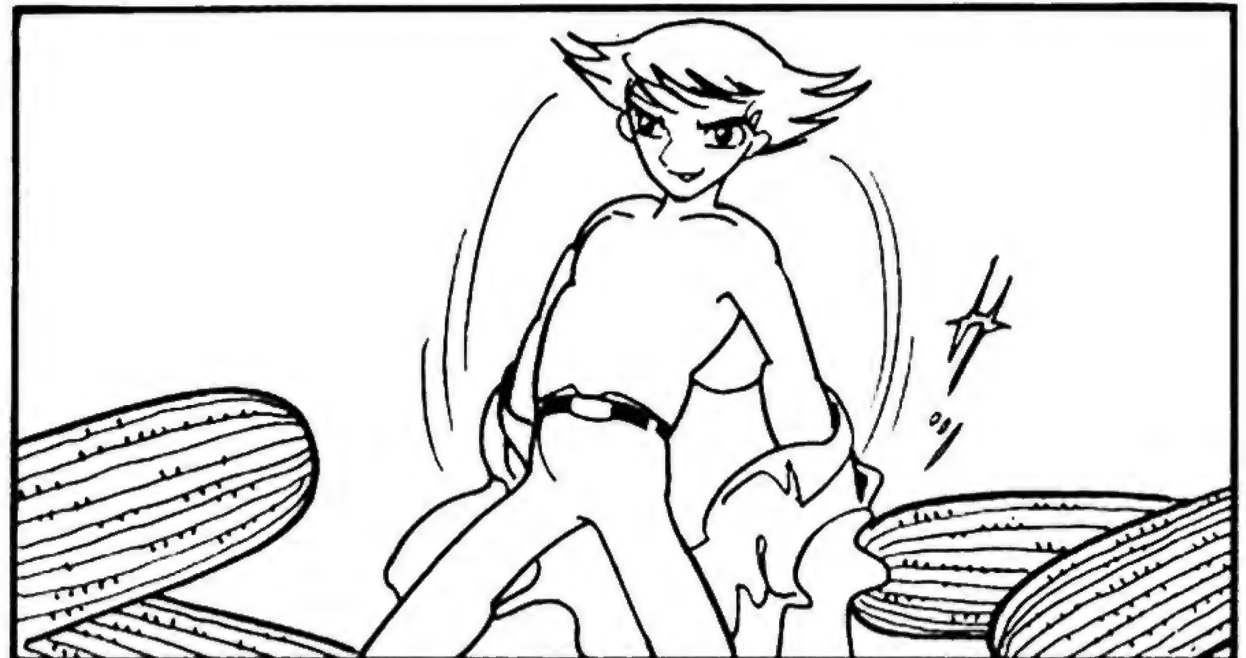

YOU'RE AN INTRUDER! WHO ARE YOU WORKING FOR?




WATCH THIS .....


YOU CAN'T HIDE FROM ME. I GOT YOU... IT WAS YOUR UNLUCKY DAY WHEN YOU FOUND ME

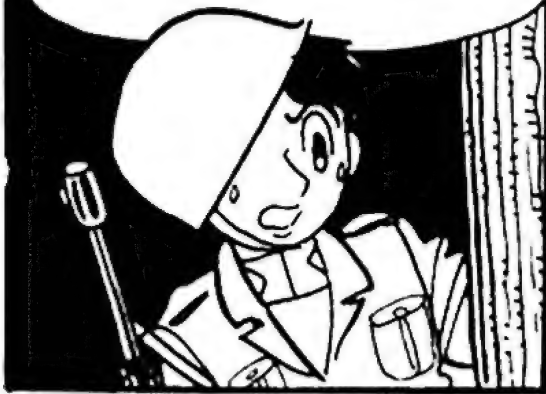


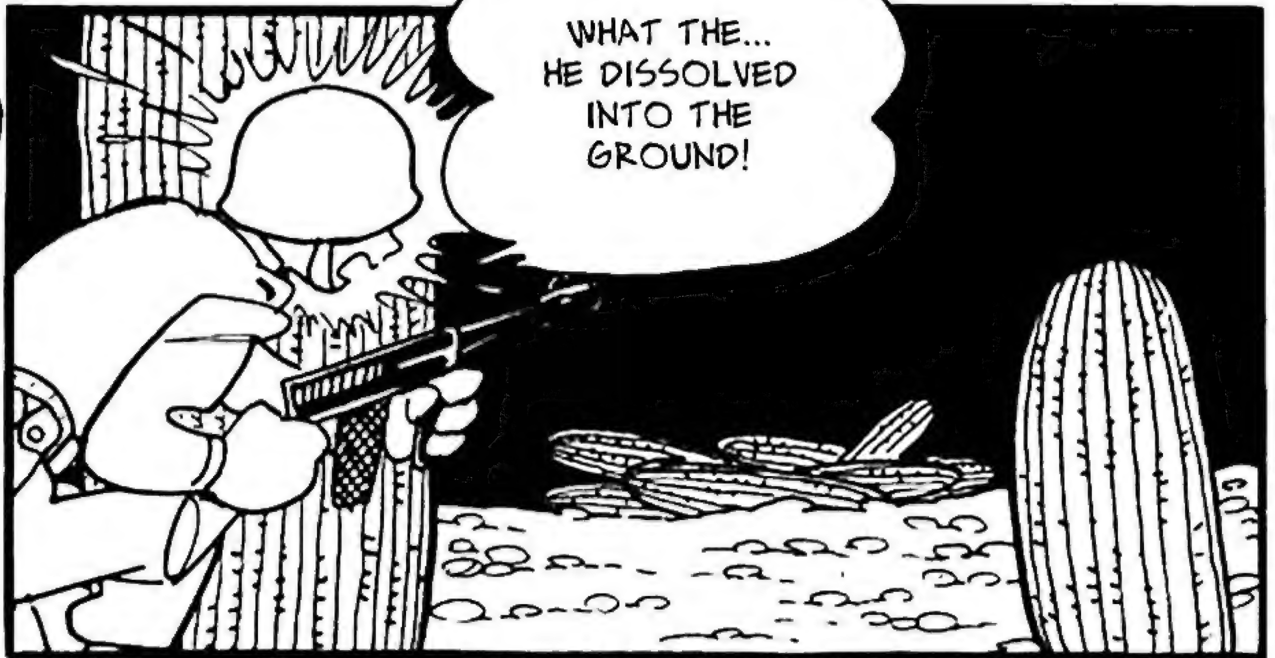


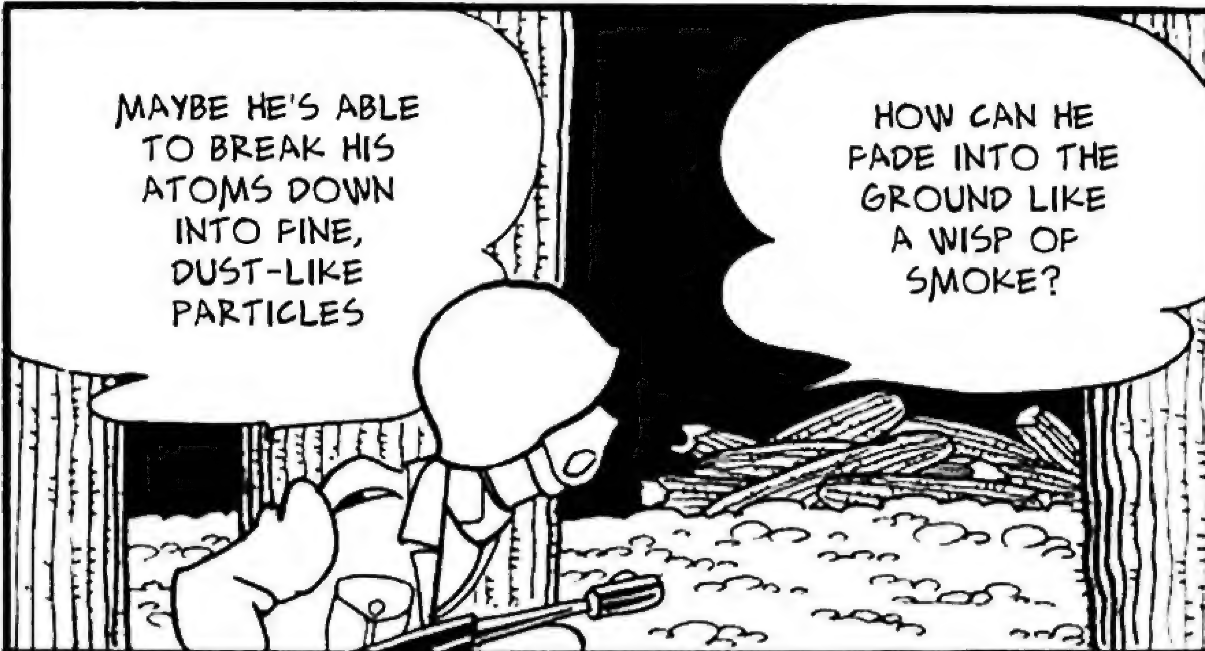




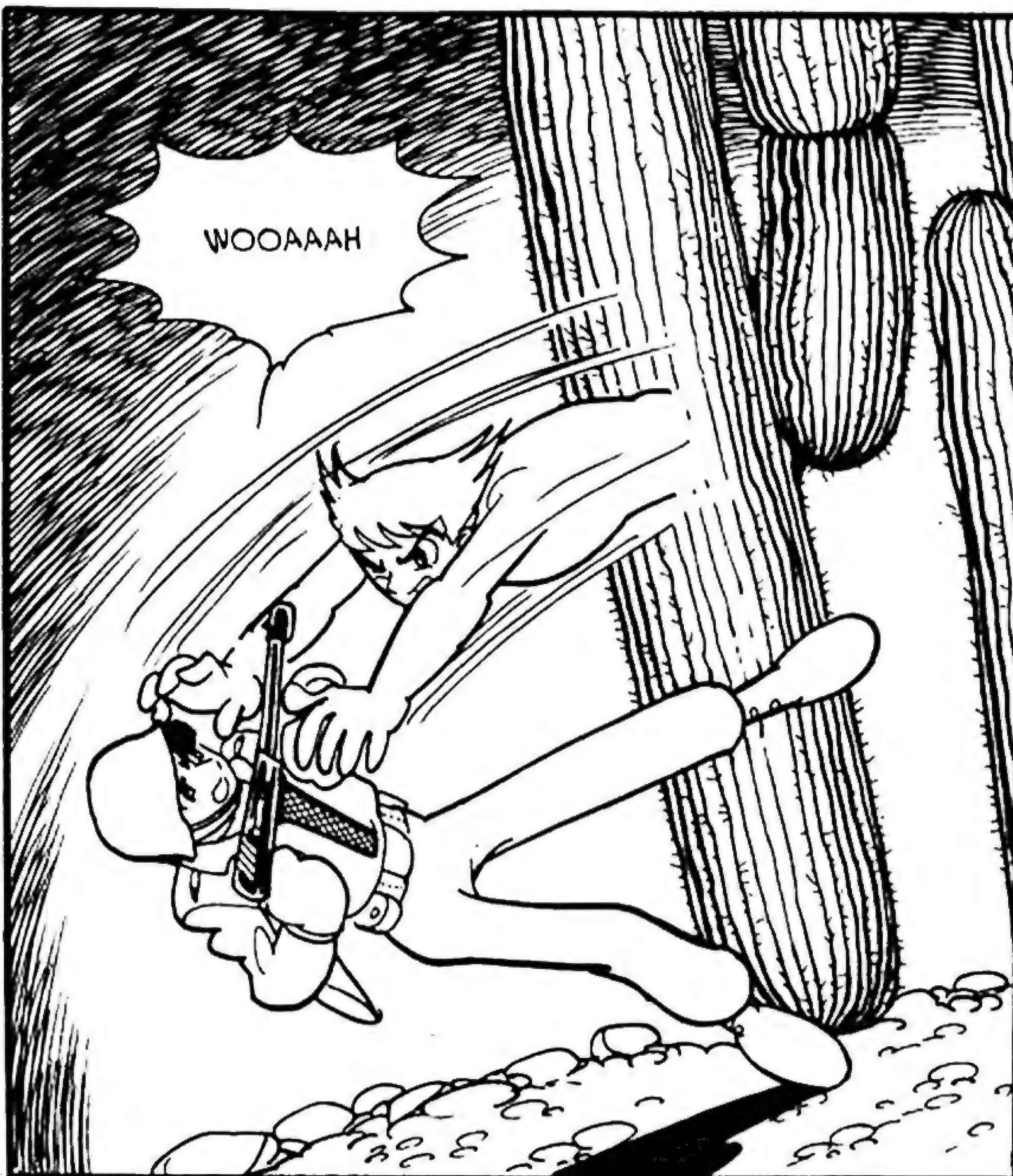



HOW FREAKY!
IS HE A CYBORG?


WHAT THE... HE DISSOLVED INTO THE GROUND!


MAYBE HE'S ABLE TO BREAK HIS ATOMS DOWN INTO FINE, DUST-LIKE PARTICLES
HOW CAN HE FADE INTO THE GROUND LIKE A WISP OF SMOKE?




WOOAAAH


WAHHH HAH HAH HA!

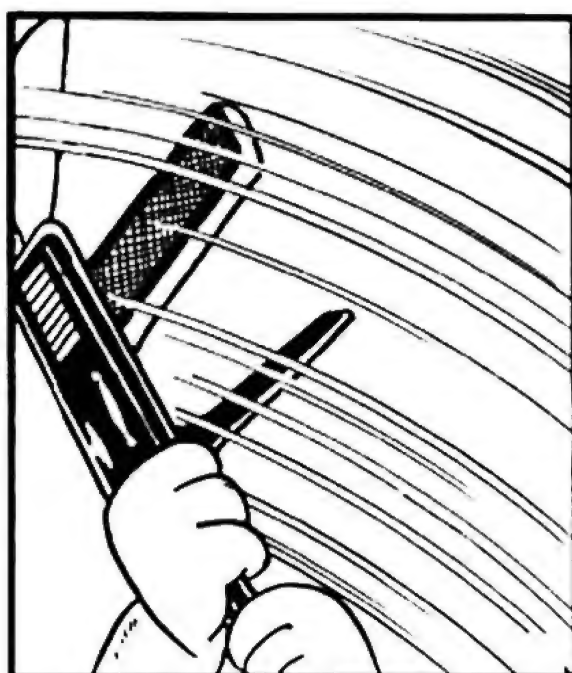

WHERE'D HE GO?

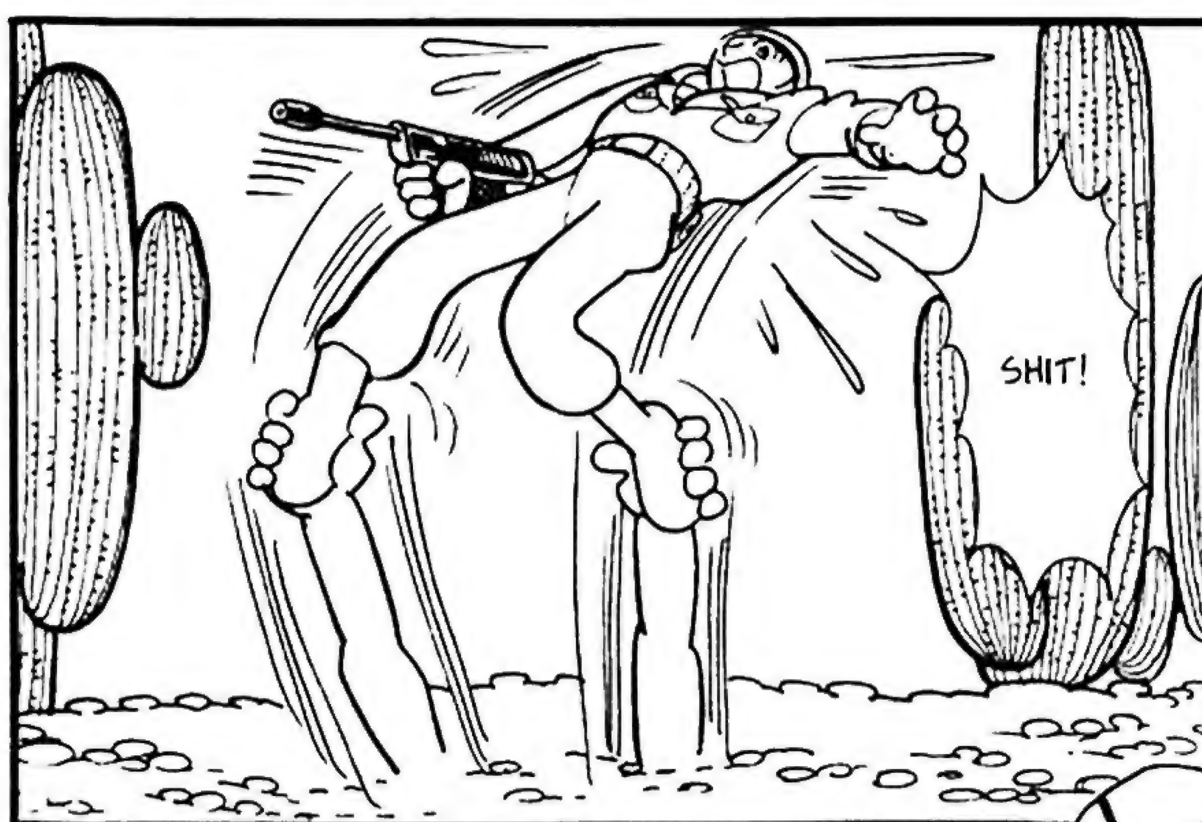

HI-YA!


SQUEEZE

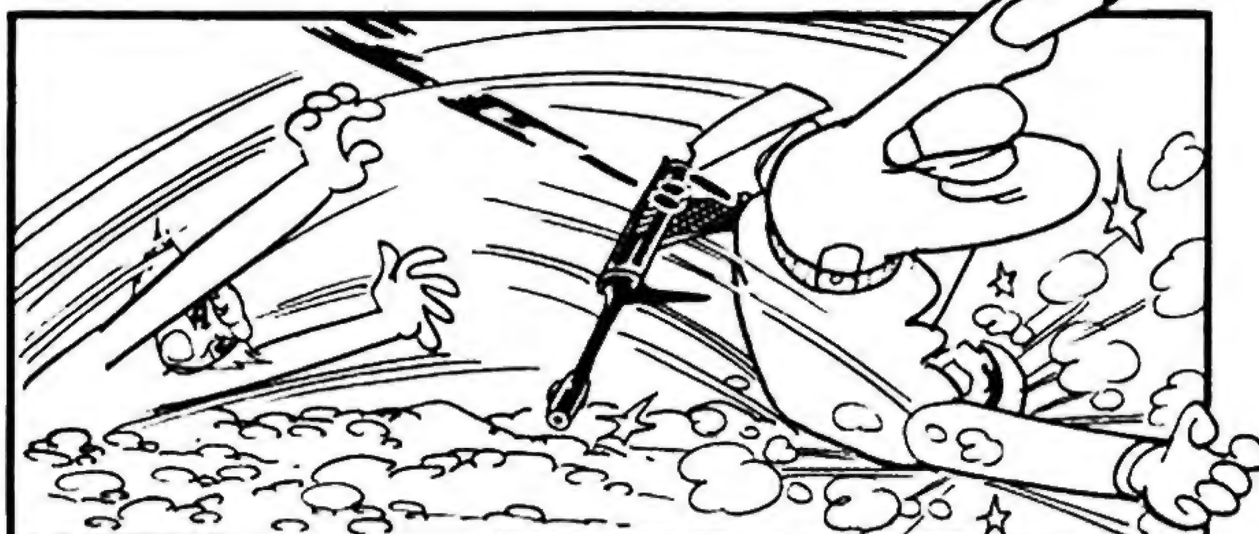



SURPRISE SURPRISE, THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING




SHIT!



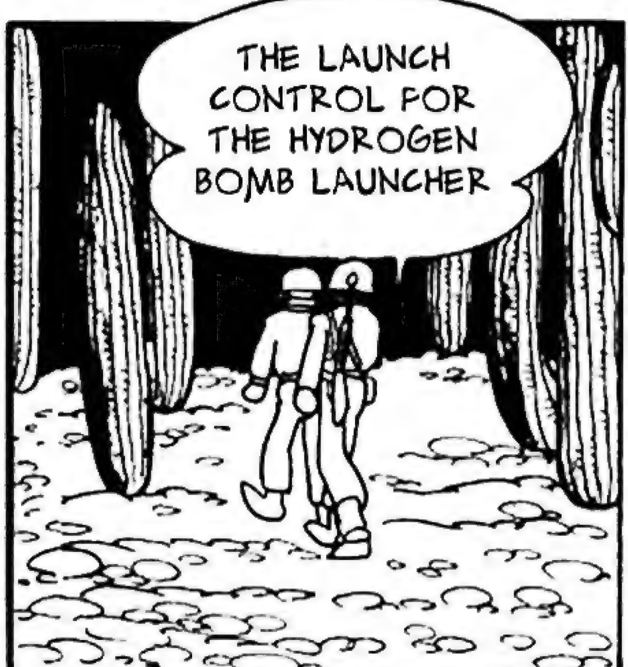





WHAT THE HELL IS THIS GUY?

ARE YOU A CYBORG TO?
HATE TO TELL YA, BUT MY BODY IS TOUGHER THAN YOUR AUTOMATIC WEAPON

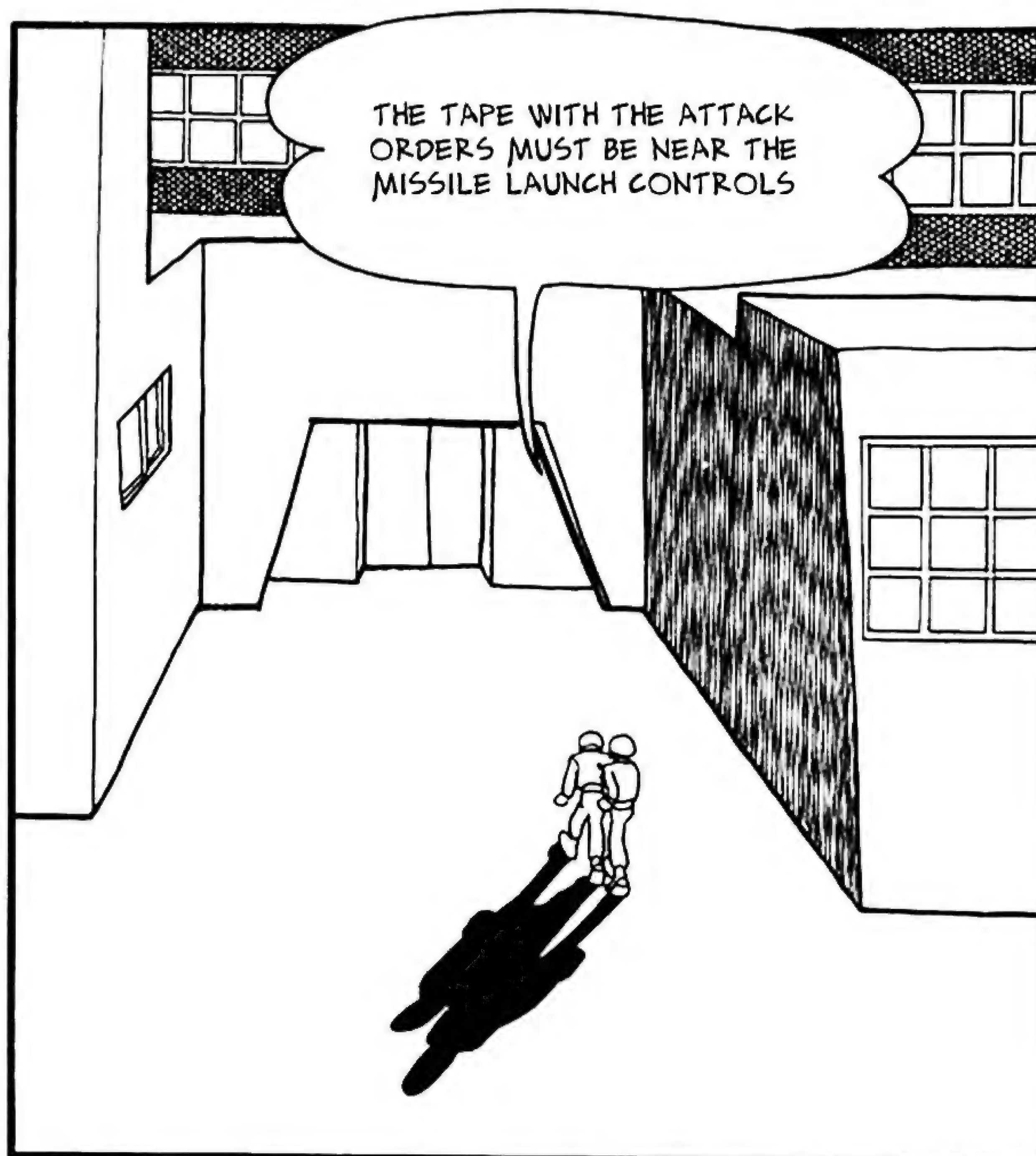
WELL NOW ...

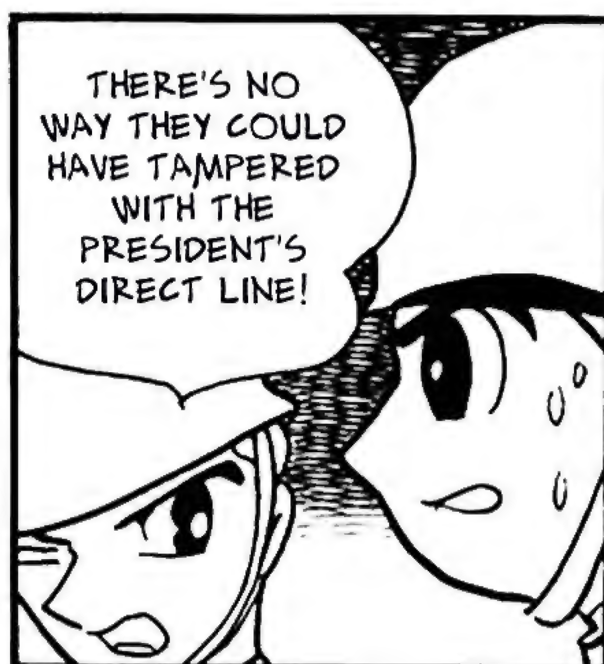

THE PISTOL CAN FIRE FASTER THAN YOU CAN PHASE INTO THE GROUND
STAY CLOSE TO ME

THE LAUNCH CONTROL FOR THE HYDROGEN BOMB LAUNCHER

......
WHICH ROOM IS THE FIRING CONTROL IN?

AND I NEED A PARTNER SO I CAN GET INSIDE THE BUILDING

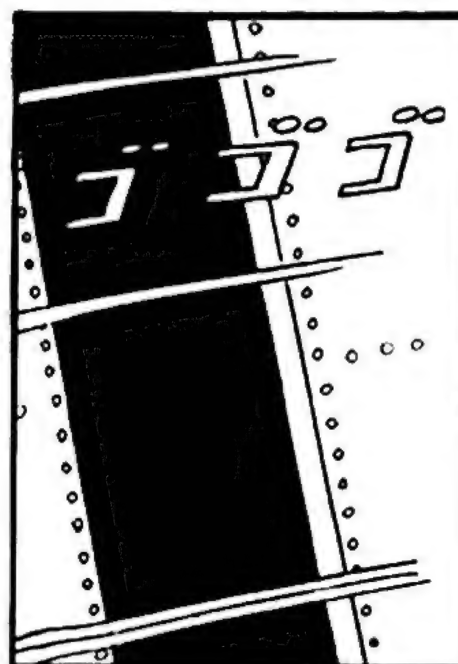

WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME
IN JUST ONE MORE HOUR AND WE'RE GOING TO BE IN OVER OUR HEADS
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?


THE TAPE WITH THE ATTACK ORDERS MUST BE NEAR THE MISSILE LAUNCH CONTROLS

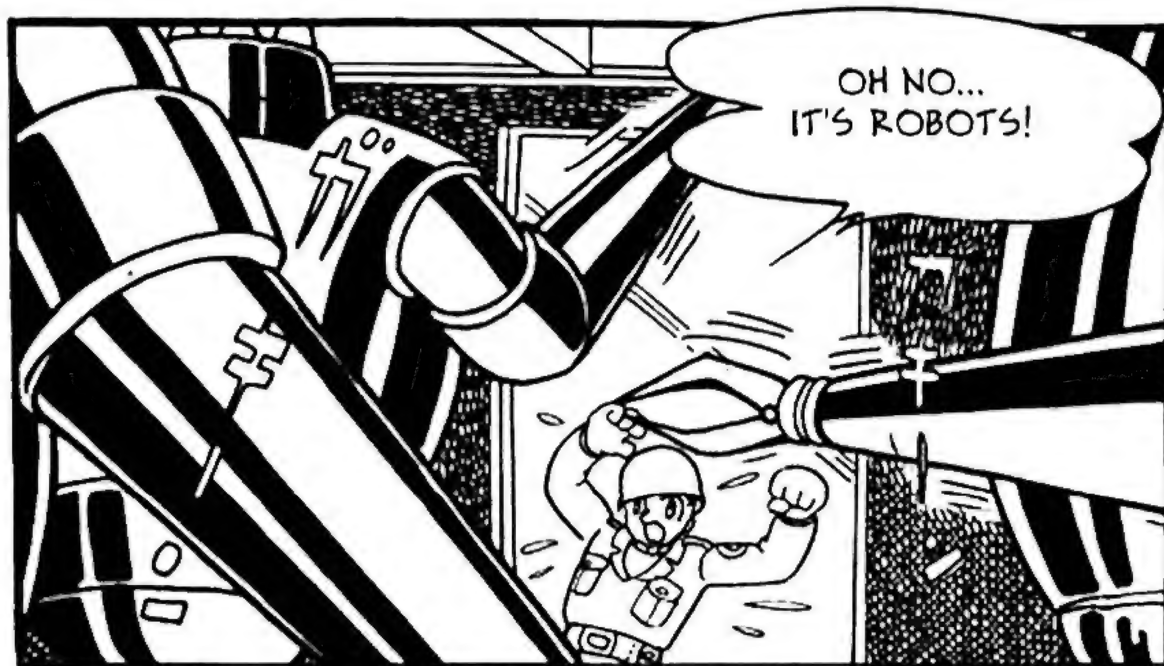

THERE'S NO WAY THEY COULD HAVE TAMPERED WITH THE PRESIDENT'S DIRECT LINE!

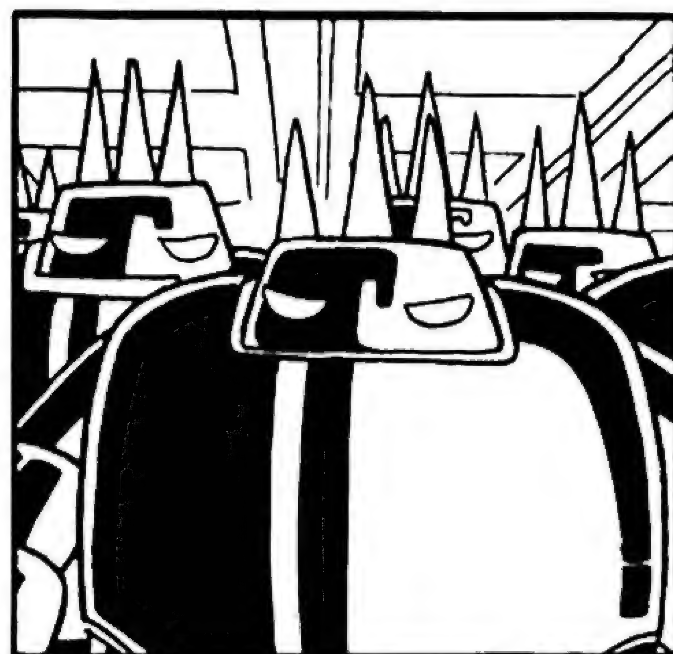

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
THAT'S THE VOICE ON THE TAPE RECORDER
THERE'S A WAR COMING AND PRESIDENT SILVER IS GOING TO BE CALLING HERE WITH ORDERS


WOAH!


ゴゴゴ


OKAY, SO WHICH IS THE LAUNCH ROOM?


OH NO...
IT'S ROBOTS!




SHIT! YOU TRICKED ME!


GOOD BYE!


FOR NOW...


SON OF A BITCH!


UWAAAHH



GAGUGUGU

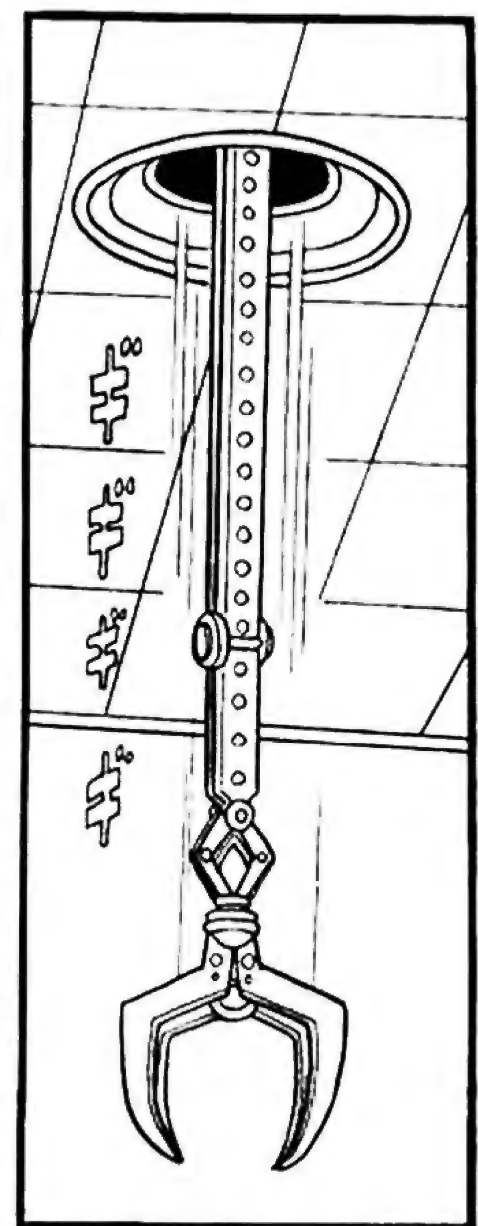
GAGGUU

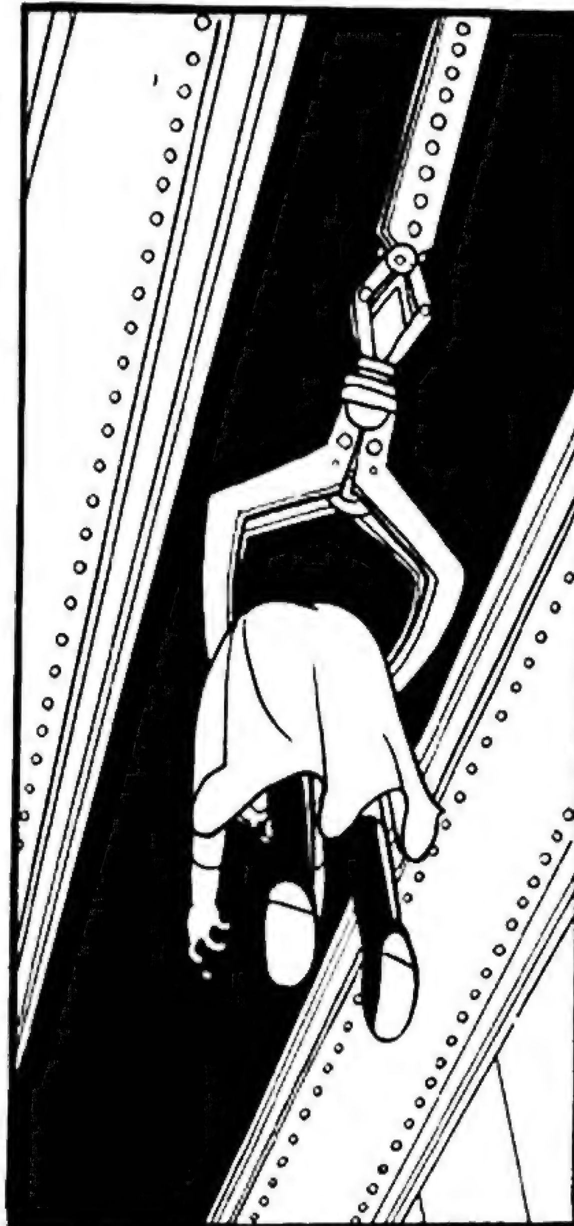


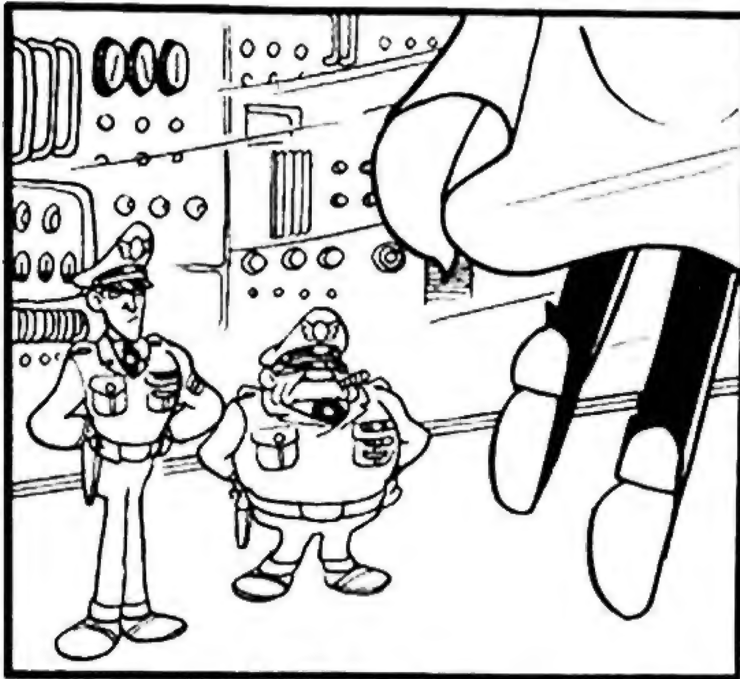


I'VE SEEN THIS THING BEFORE SIR. IT'S A MONSTER THAT GOES BY THE NAME OF BIG X

THAT'S RIGHT. THIS IS THE GUY WHO FOUGHT AGAINST THE NAZI ALLIANCE AND SUDDENLY GREW GIGANTIC AND CRUSHED THEM.



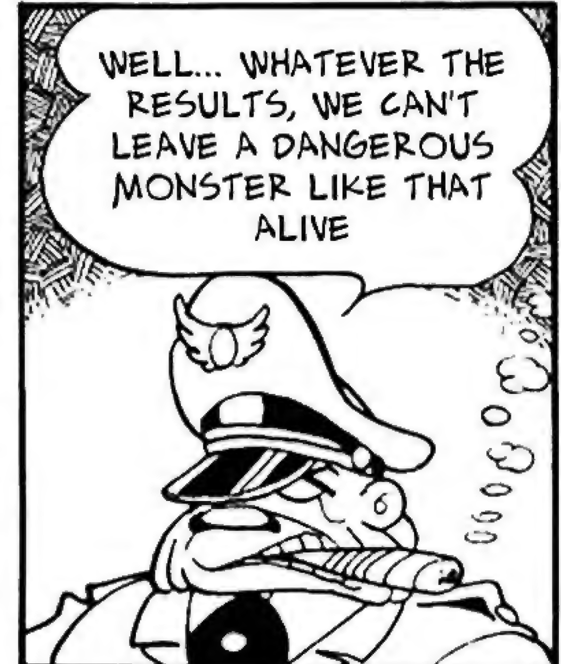






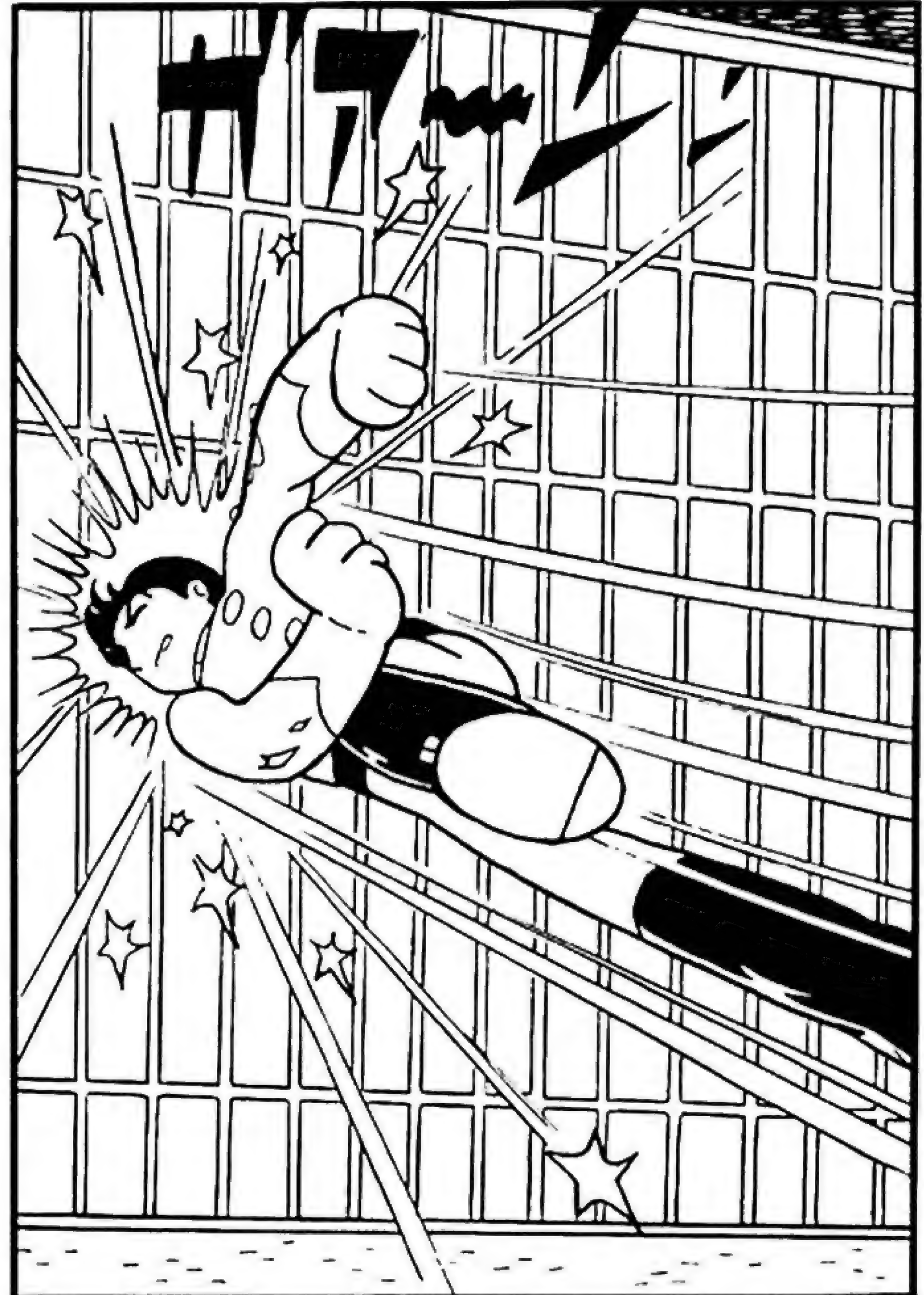

IF THIS BASE IS COMPROMISED WE'RE IN DEEP DOODOO
YESSIR!


SO... YOU WANT TO KILL HIM?
YES! SHOOT HIM BEFORE HE HAS A CHANCE TO GROW


WELL... WHATEVER THE RESULTS, WE CAN'T LEAVE A DANGEROUS MONSTER LIKE THAT ALIVE


A CAGE HUH? NOT FOR LONG!


......
......?
WHAT? WHERE DID THEY PUT ME WHILE I WAS OUT?







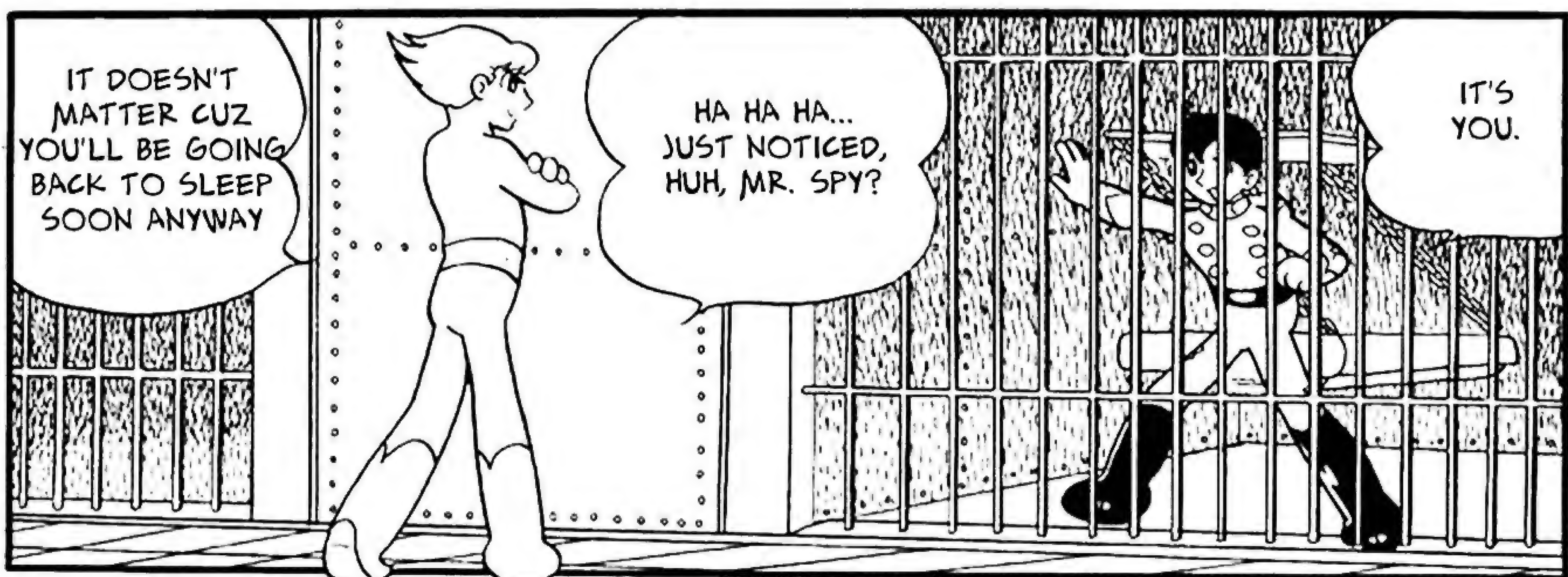


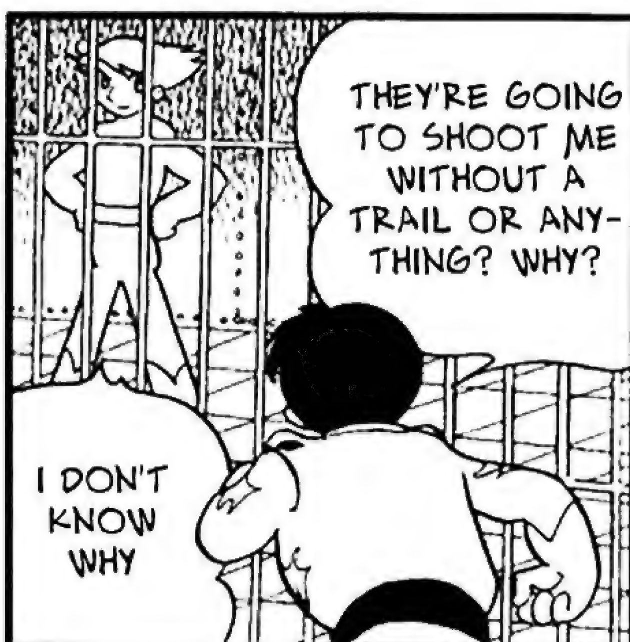

THERE MIGHT BE NO GETTING OUT OF THIS MESS
THE PEN IS GONE!


CRAP! I'M OUT OF THE DRUG. IT MUST HAVE RUN OUT WHILE I WAS PASSED OUT


HA HA HA HA

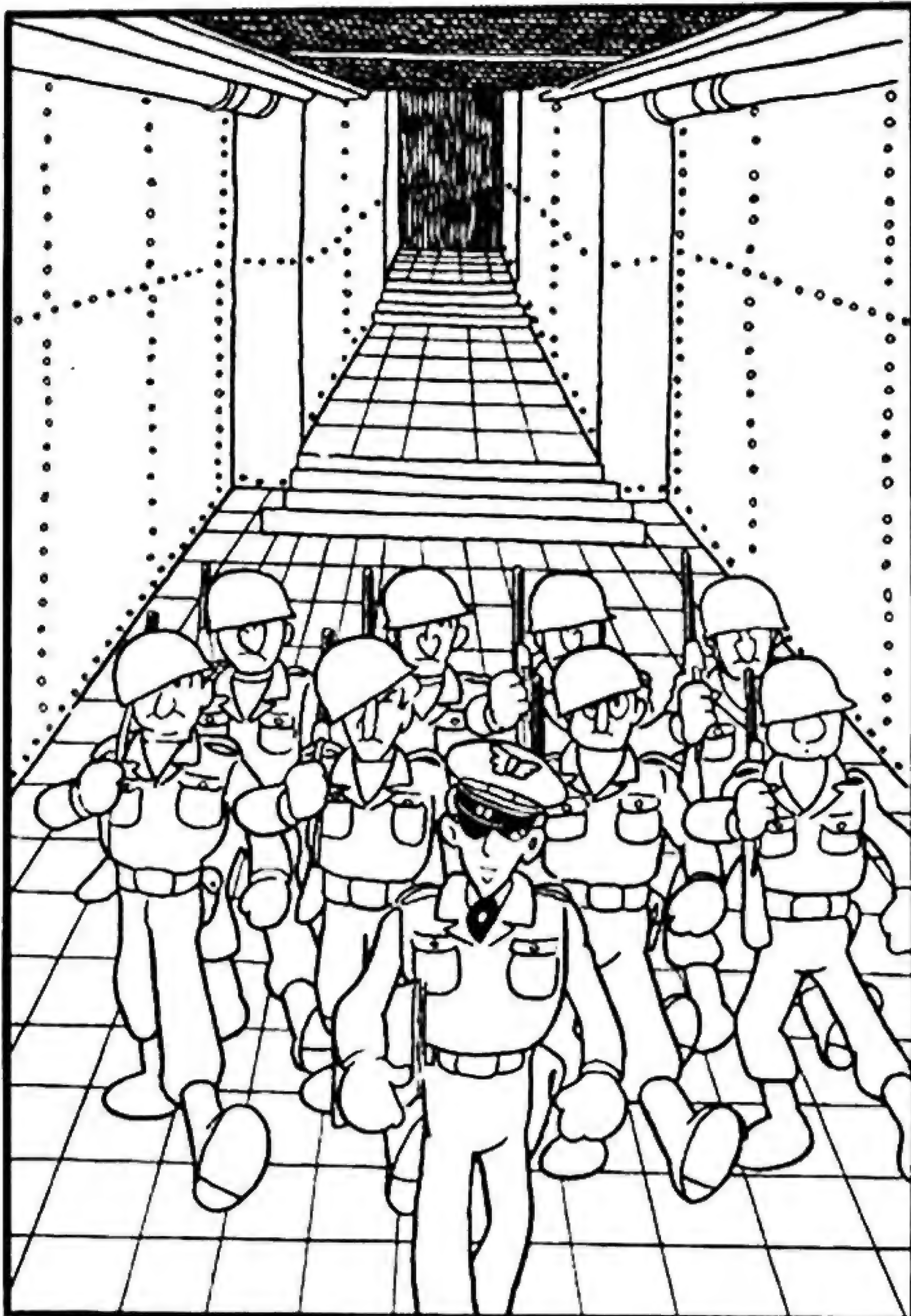
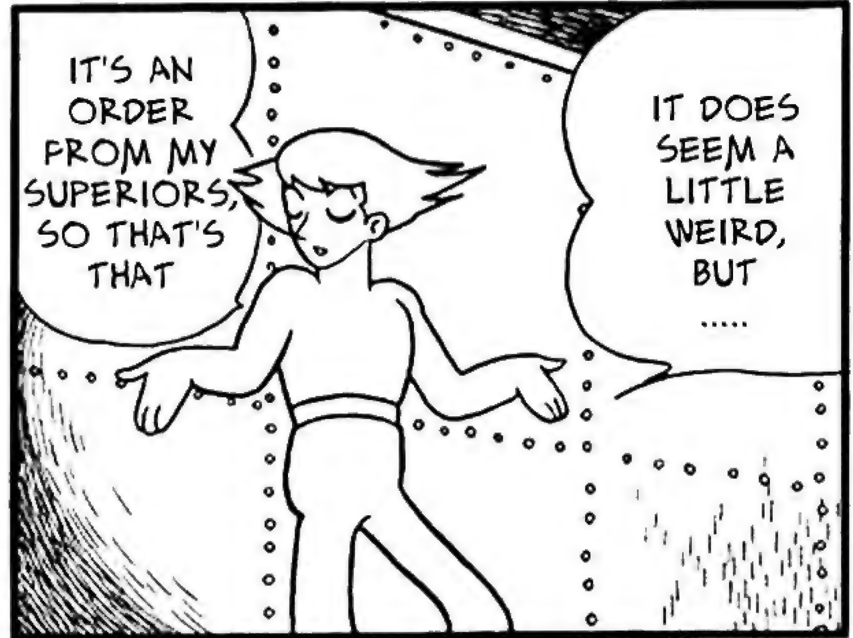

AND JUST WHEN A WORLD WAR IS ABOUT TO BEGIN


IT DOESN'T MATTER CUZ YOU'LL BE GOING BACK TO SLEEP SOON ANYWAY
HA HA HA... JUST NOTICED, HUH, MR. SPY?
IT'S YOU.


THEY'RE GOING TO SHOOT ME WITHOUT A TRAIL OR ANY-THING? WHY?
I DON'T KNOW WHY

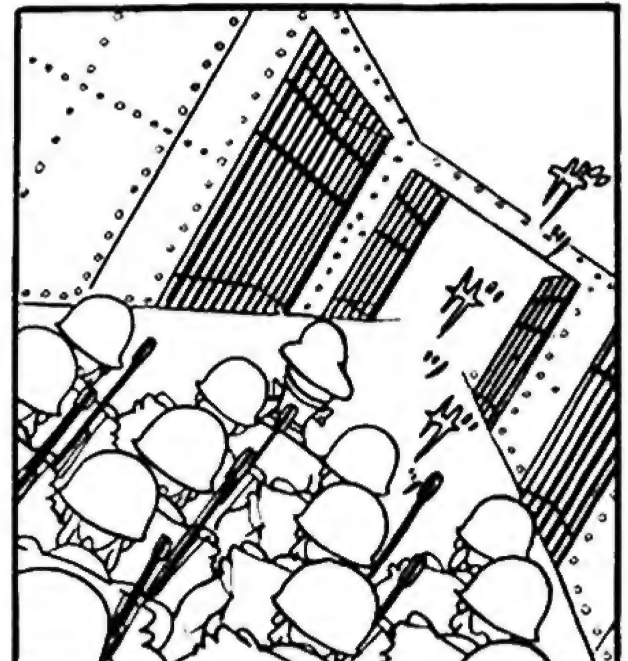

I'M SORRY BUT IN 10 MINUTES THEY'RE GOING TO SHOOT YOU. AND I'M HERE TO LET YOU KNOW IT.


HUH?



IT DOES SEEM A LITTLE WEIRD, BUT .....
IT'S AN ORDER FROM MY SUPERIORS, SO THAT'S THAT

LISTEN TO ME, I THINK YOU ARE SOMEONE WHO IS TRYING TO DO THE RIGHT THING .....

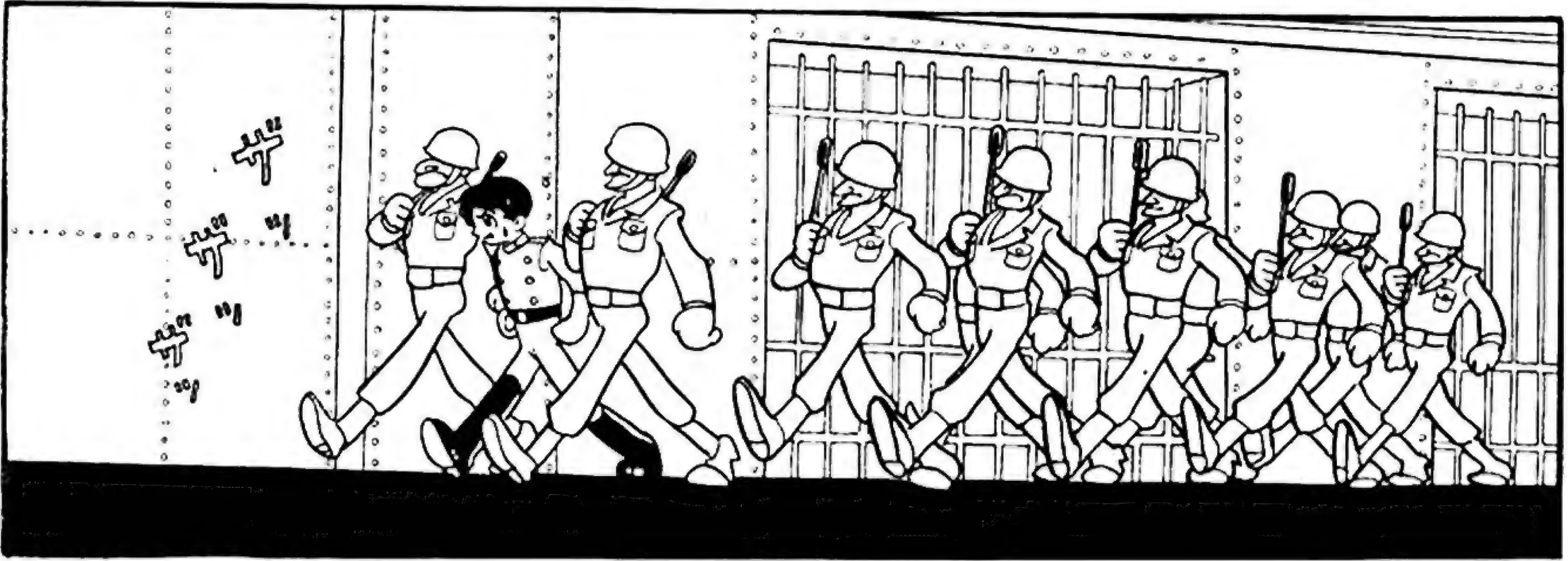
THAT PHONE IS FAKE. IT'S NOT CONNECTED TO THE OUT-SIDE WORLD AT ALL.

PLEASE JUST DO THIS ONE THING. CHECK ON THE PRESIDENT'S DIRECT PHONE LINE


THEY'RE HERE

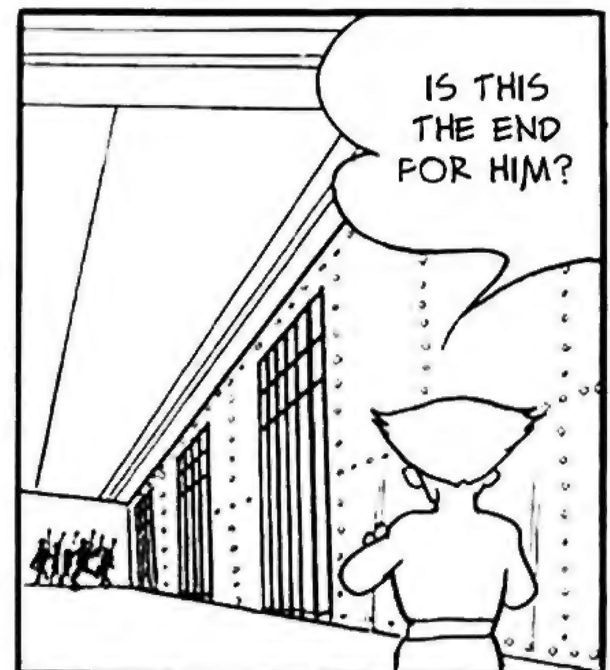
WAIT! PLEASE WAIT A MINUTE...

IS THAT ALL YOU HAVE TO SAY?

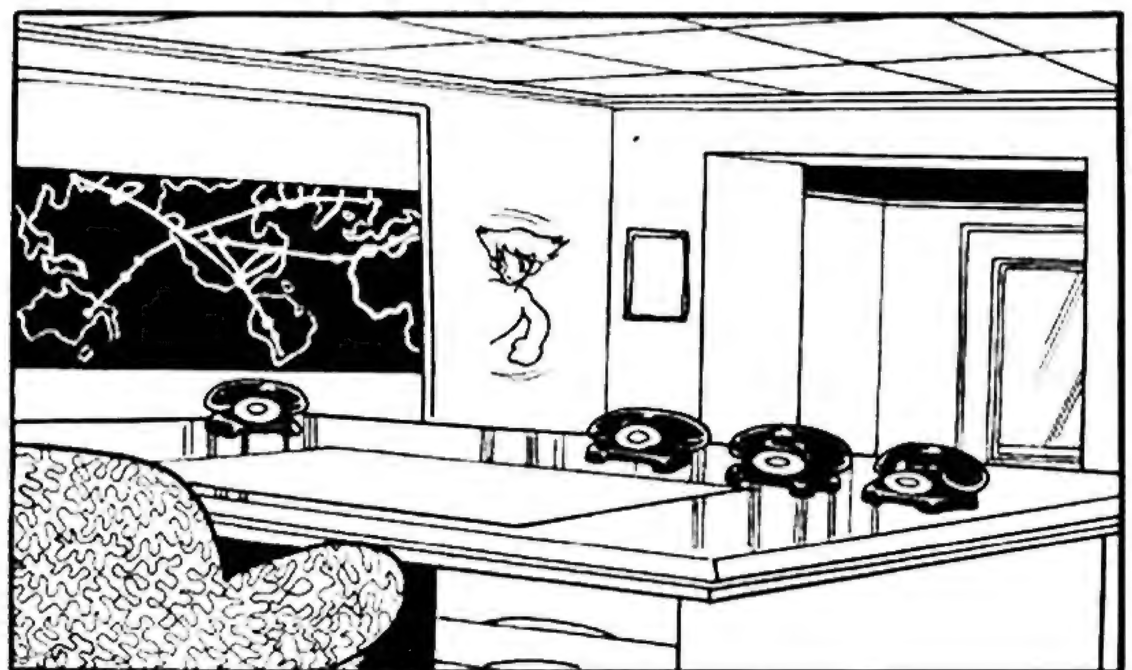

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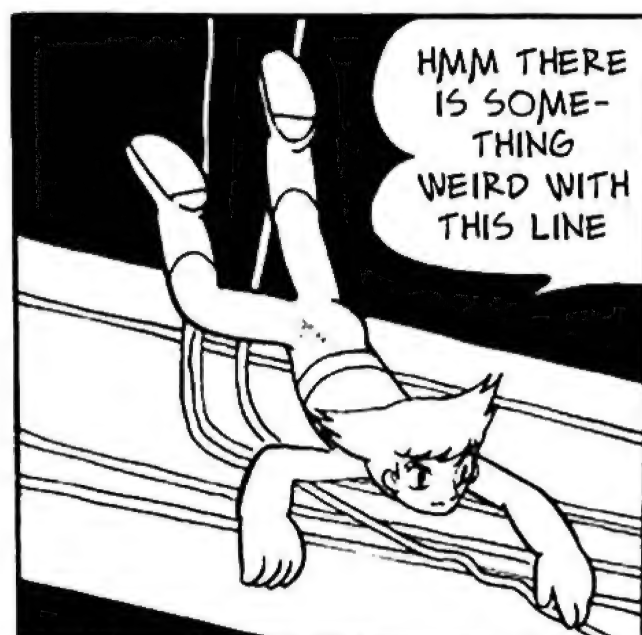

ザッ
I'LL CHECK YOUR STUPID PHONE


OH, VERY WELL .....


IS THIS THE END FOR HIM?

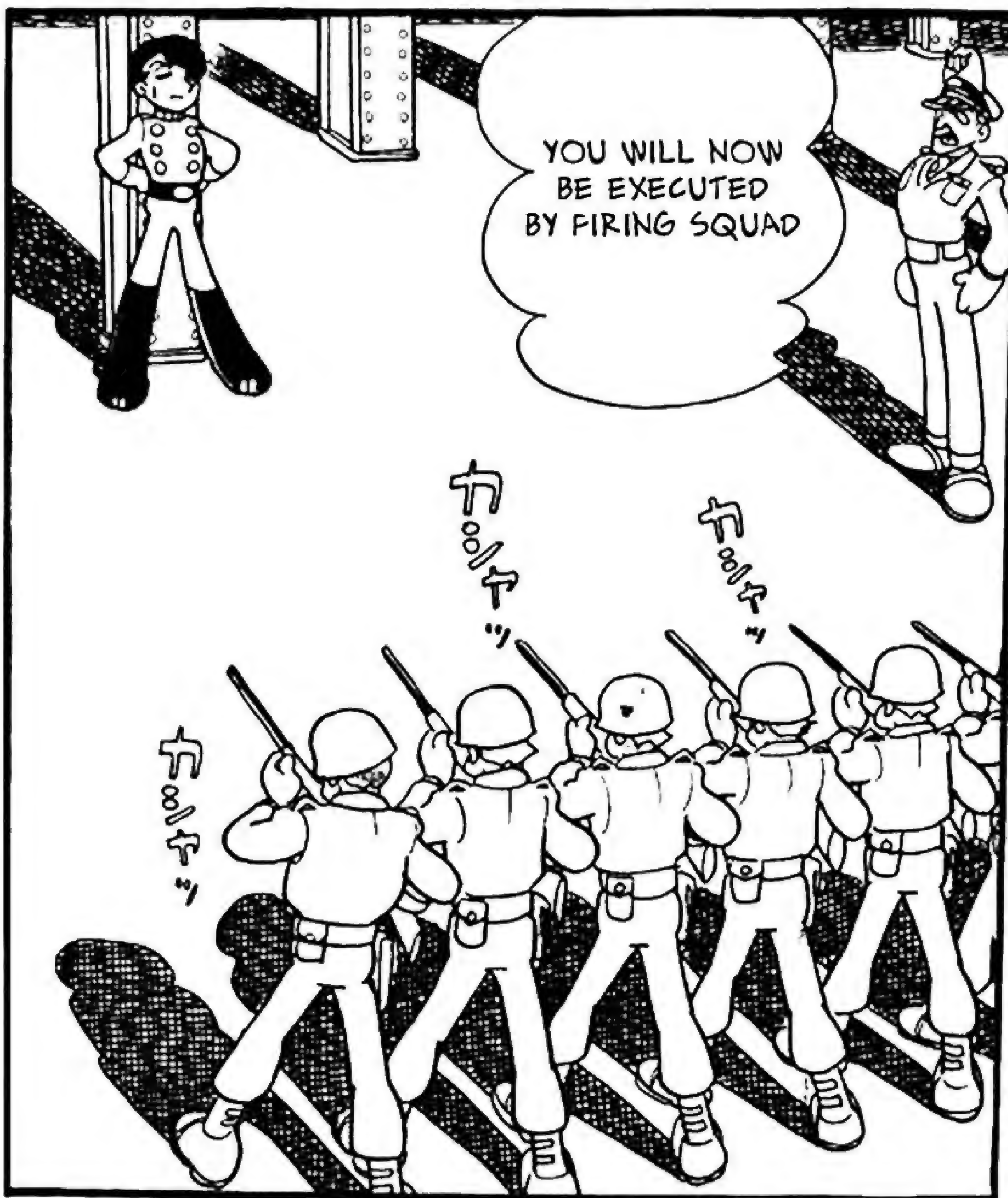

HMM I THINK THIS ONE'S THE PRESIDENT'S DIRECT LINE
GOOD THING THERE'S NO ONE IN THE CHIEF'S OFFICE

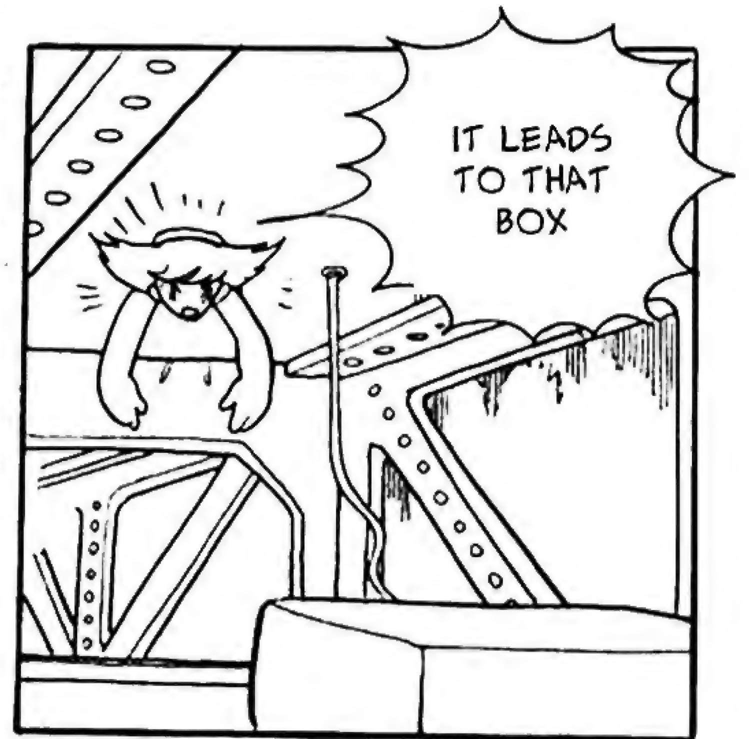



HMM THERE IS SOME-THING WEIRD WITH THIS LINE


HERE I GO

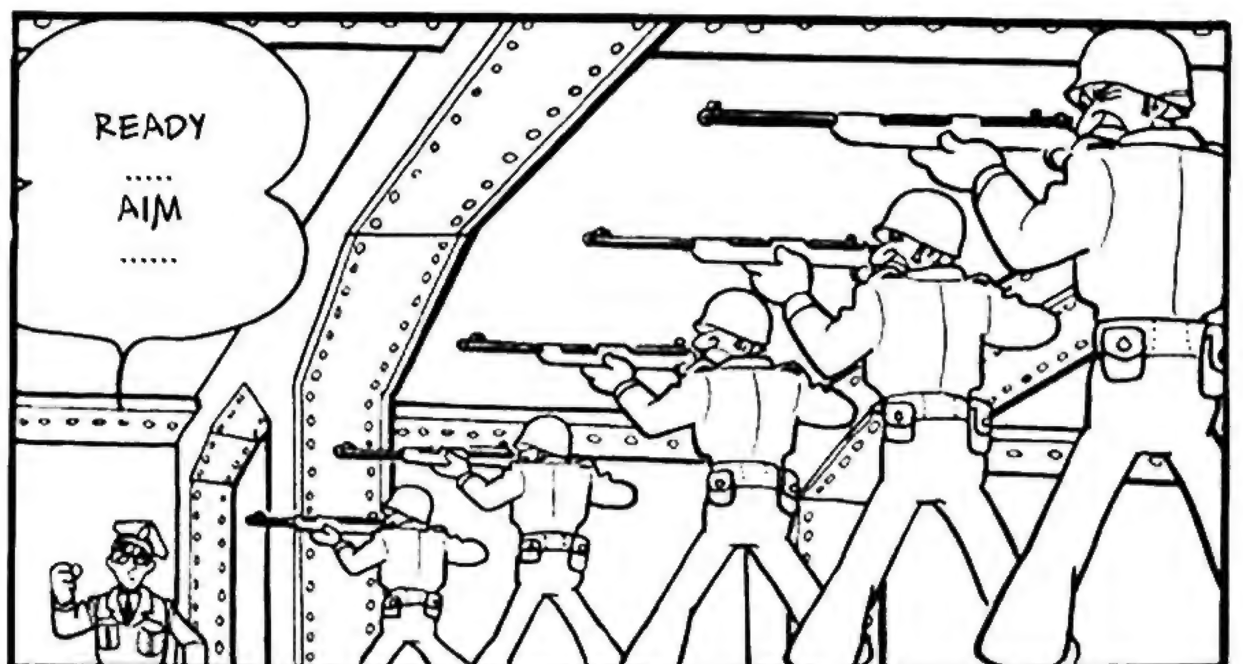

WHERE DOES THIS PHONE LINE GO? IS IT CONNECTED?

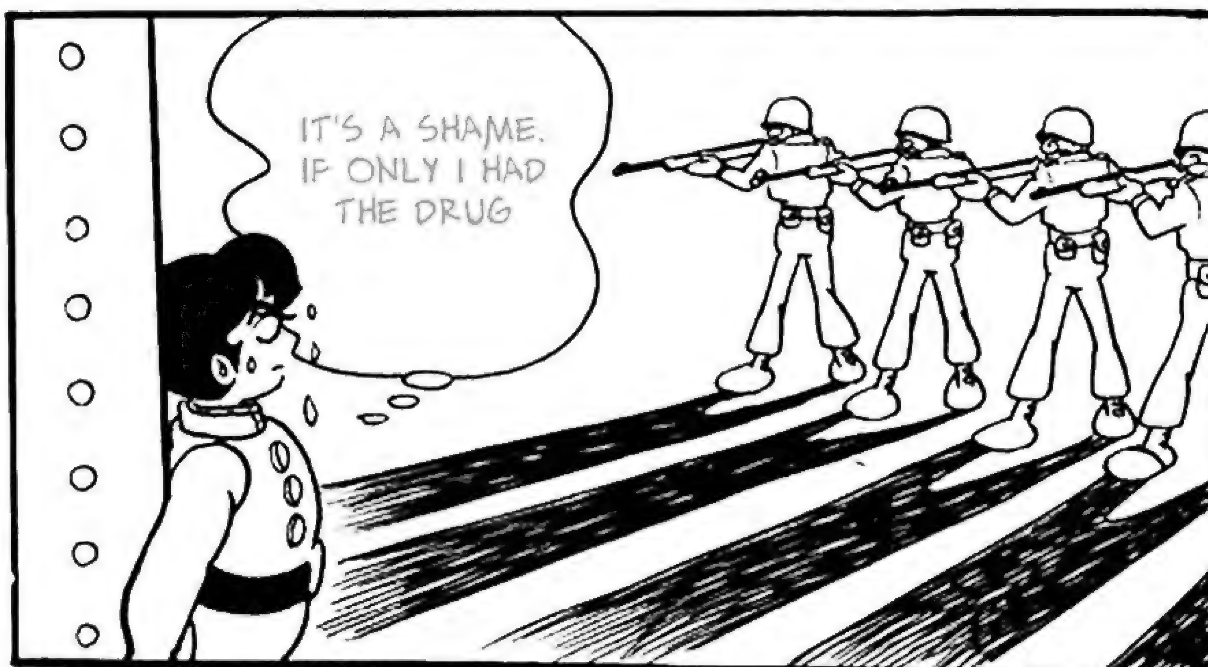

YOU WILL NOW BE EXECUTED BY FIRING SQUAD

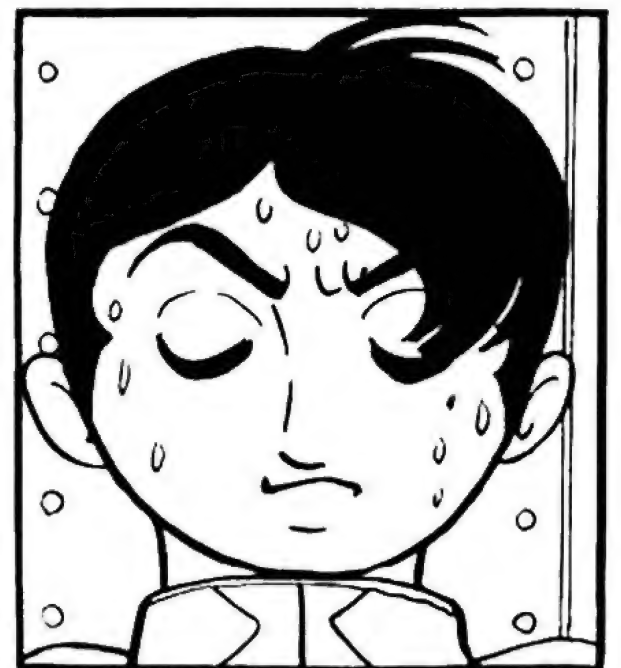

IT LEADS TO THAT BOX


WHAT THE HELL IS THIS?!?

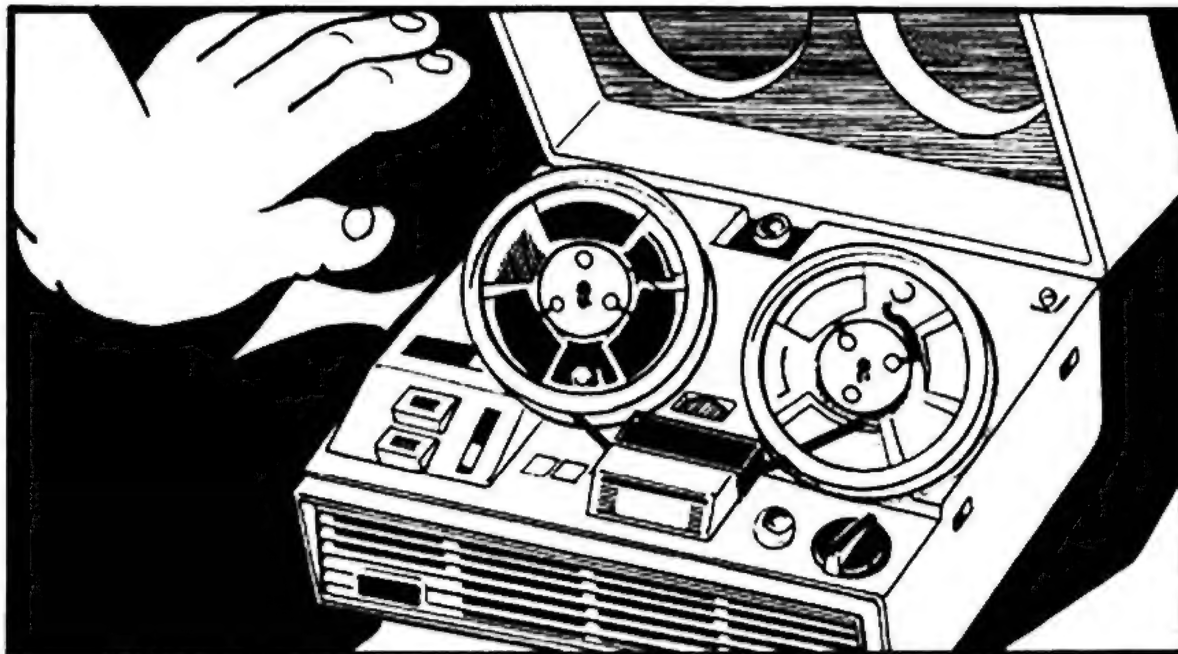



READY ..... AIM ......

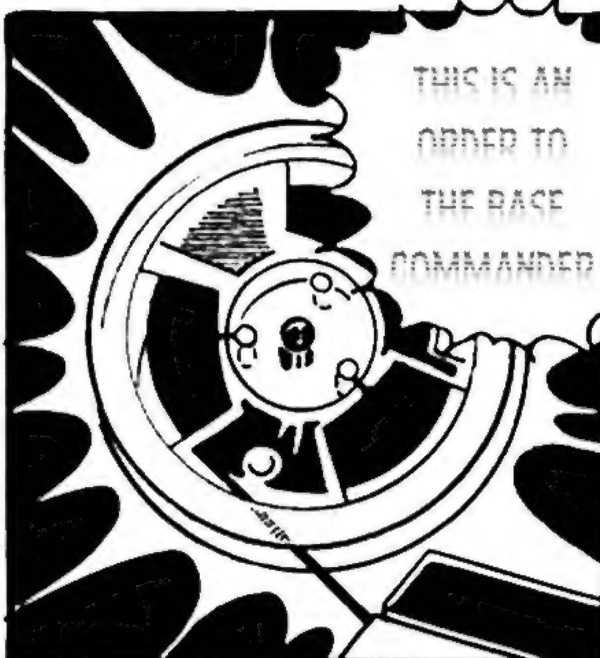

IT'S A SHAME. IF ONLY I HAD THE DRUG

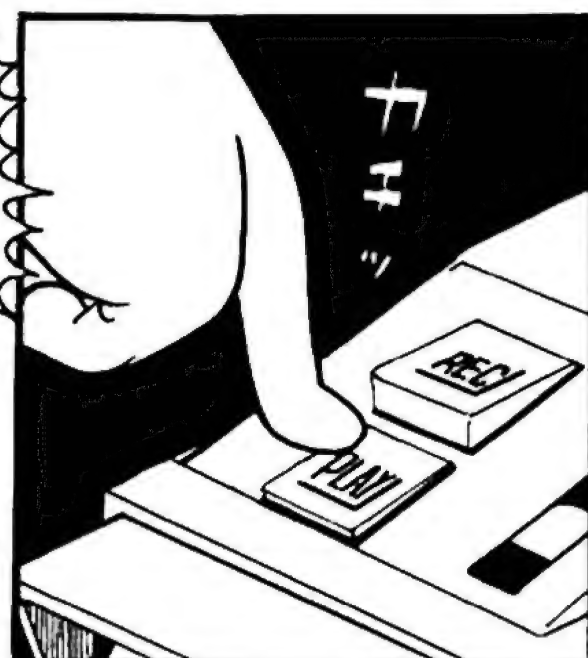


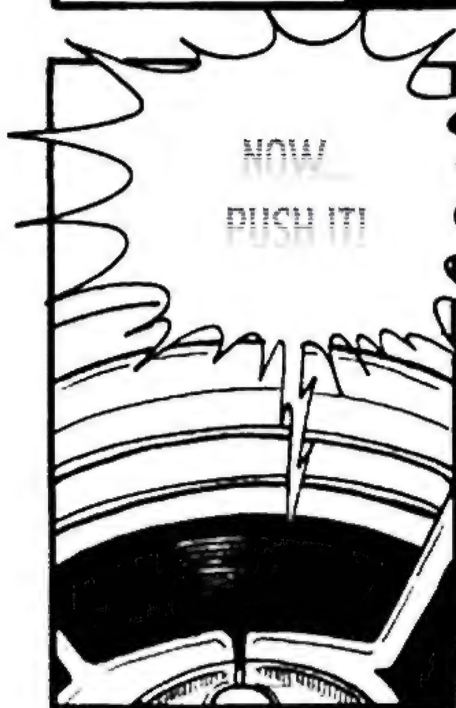




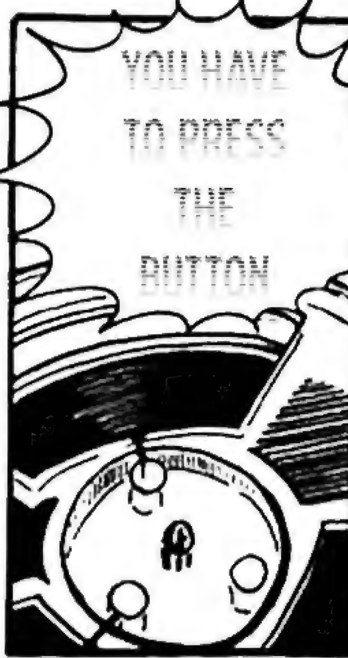

THAT'S... THAT'S THE VOICE OF PRESIDENT SILVER

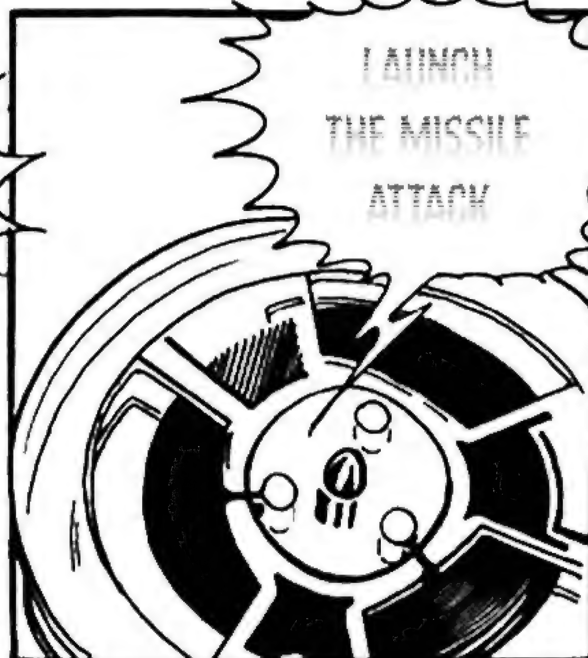

THIS IS AN ORDER TO THE BASE COMMANDER


REC
PLAY


NOW... PUSH IT!



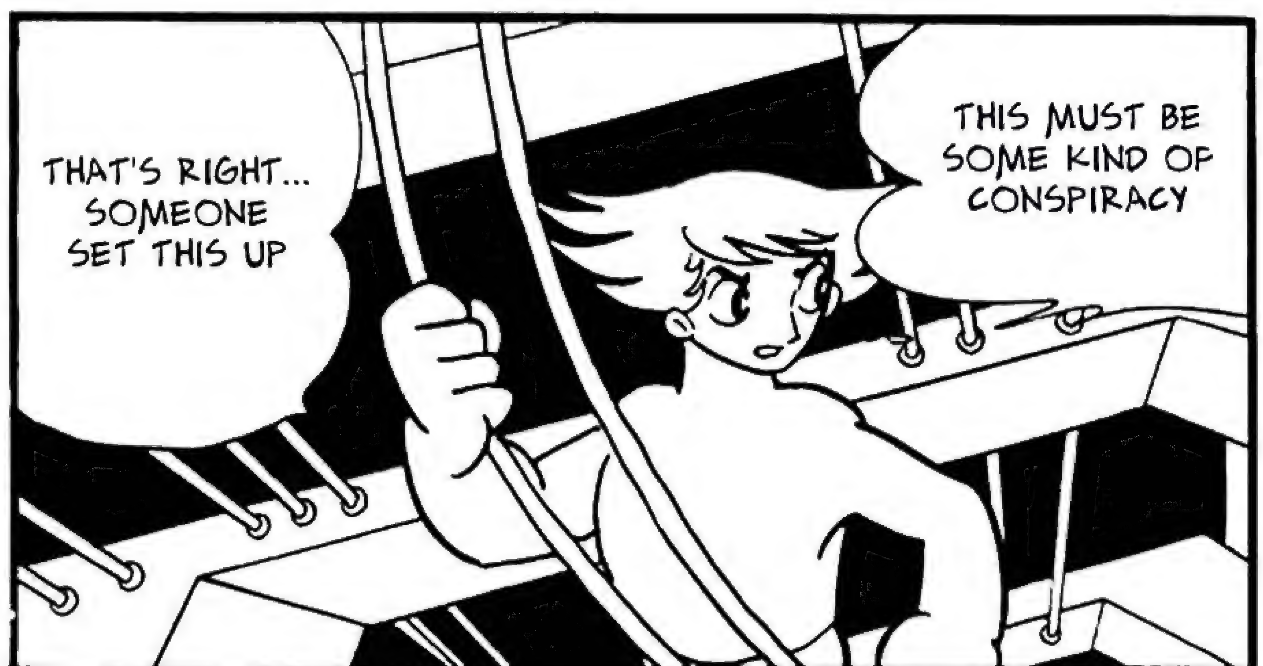

YOU HAVE TO PRESS THE BUTTON


LAUNCH THE MISSILE ATTACK

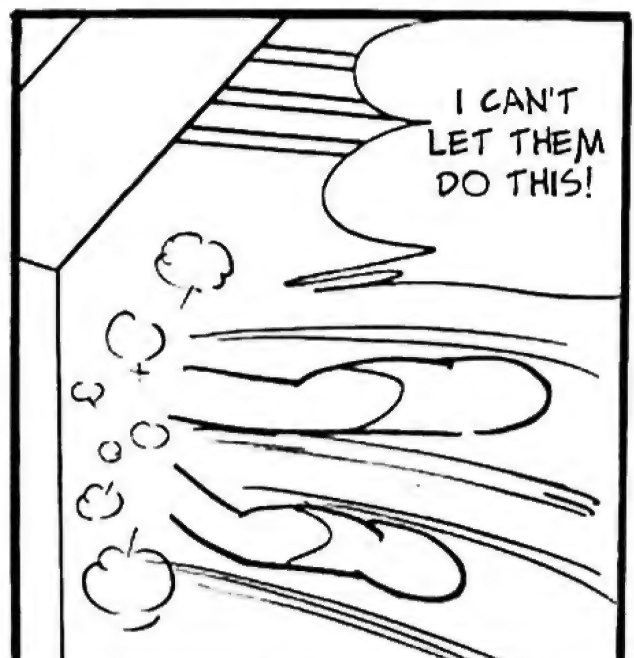

WHAT THE HELL IS THIS?


IT'S... IT'S ALL ON A TAPE!
THE PRESIDENT'S ORDERS ARE...


THAT KID WAS RIGHT!

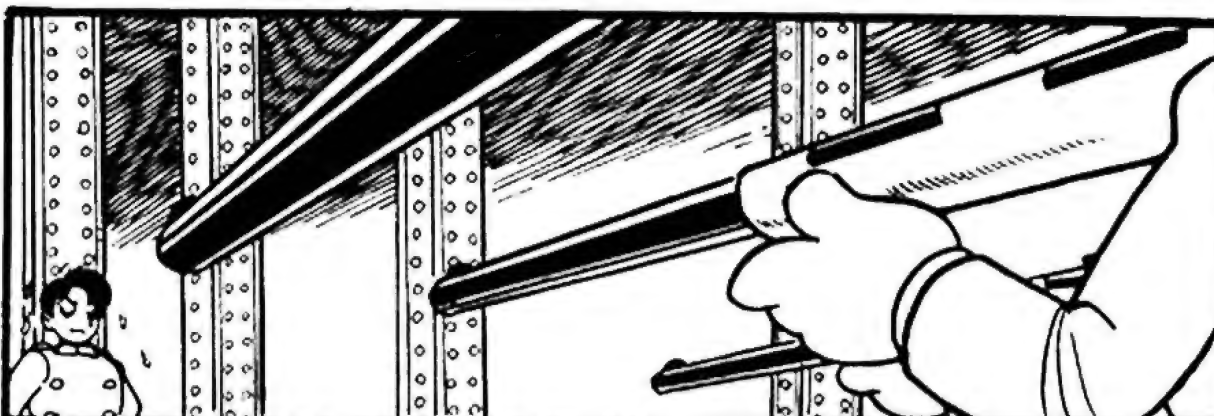

THIS MUST BE SOME KIND OF CONSPIRACY
THAT'S RIGHT... SOMEONE SET THIS UP


I HAVE TO HELP THE BOY!


I CAN'T LET THEM DO THIS!



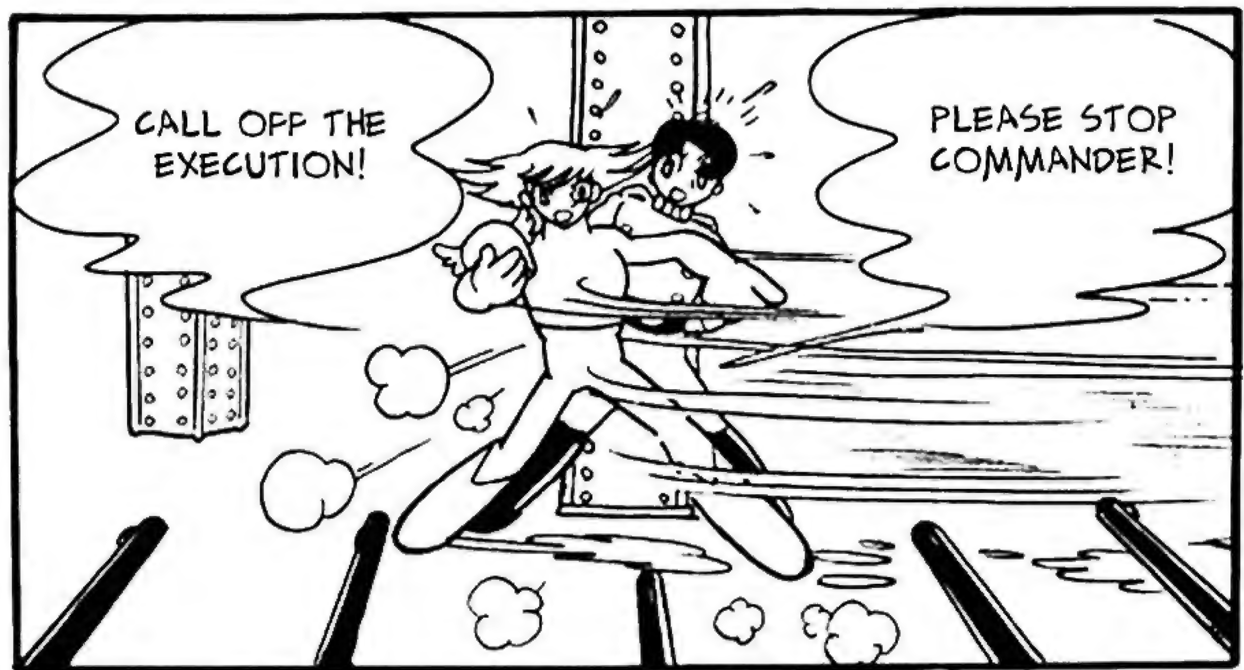


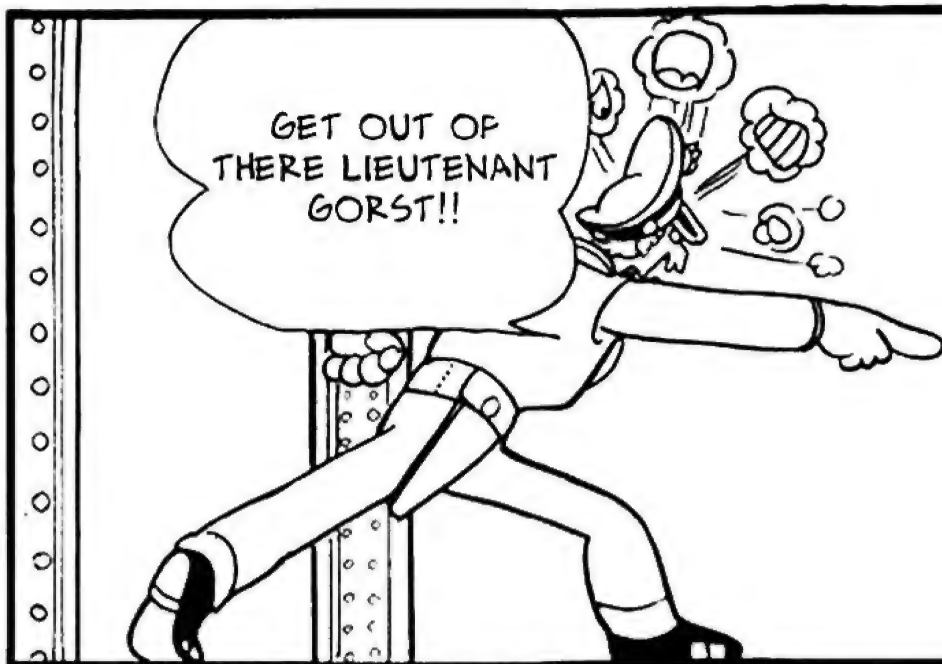



OKAY YEAH I'M TAKING THIS WITH ME

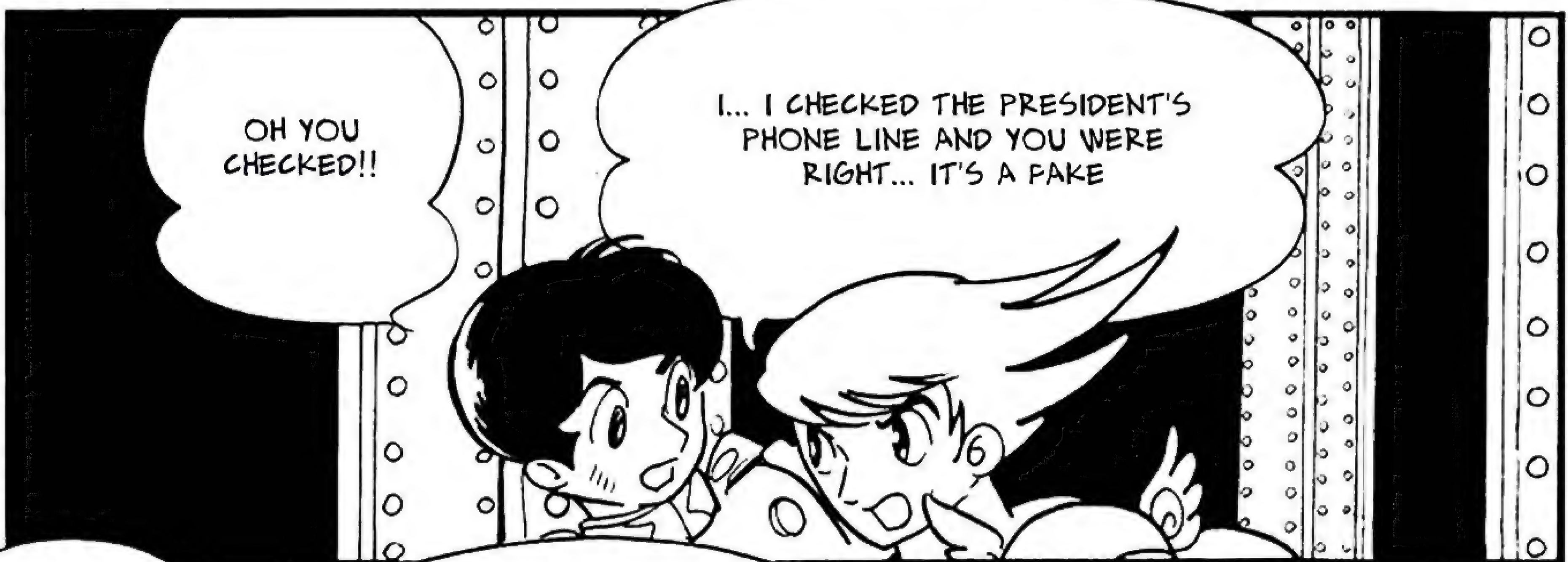

STOP!


LIEUTENANT JIM GORST, WHY ARE YOU INTERFERING WITH MY FIRING SQUAD?


CALL OFF THE EXECUTION!
PLEASE STOP COMMANDER!


GET OUT OF THERE LIEUTENANT GORST!!

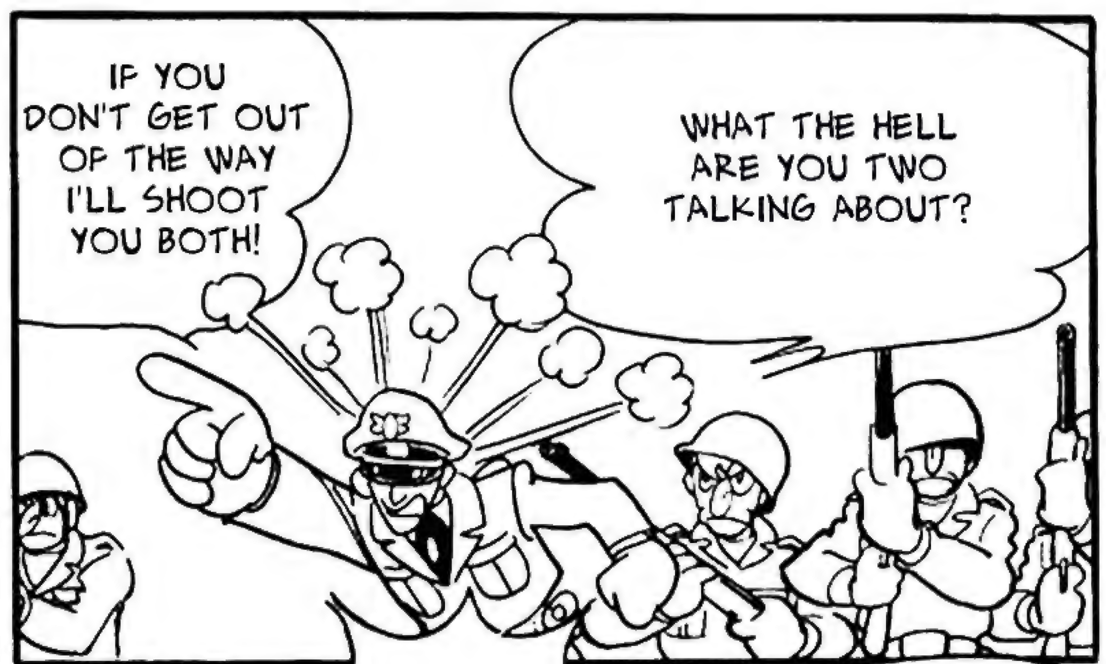

COMMANDER! PLEASE LET ME TALK TO THIS BOY


I... I CHECKED THE PRESIDENT'S PHONE LINE AND YOU WERE RIGHT... IT'S A FAKE
OH YOU CHECKED!!


WHY DID THEY GO TO ALL THE TROUBLE TO MAKE IT WORK LIKE THAT?
WHY WOULDN'T HE JUST MAKE THE CALL HIMSELF?

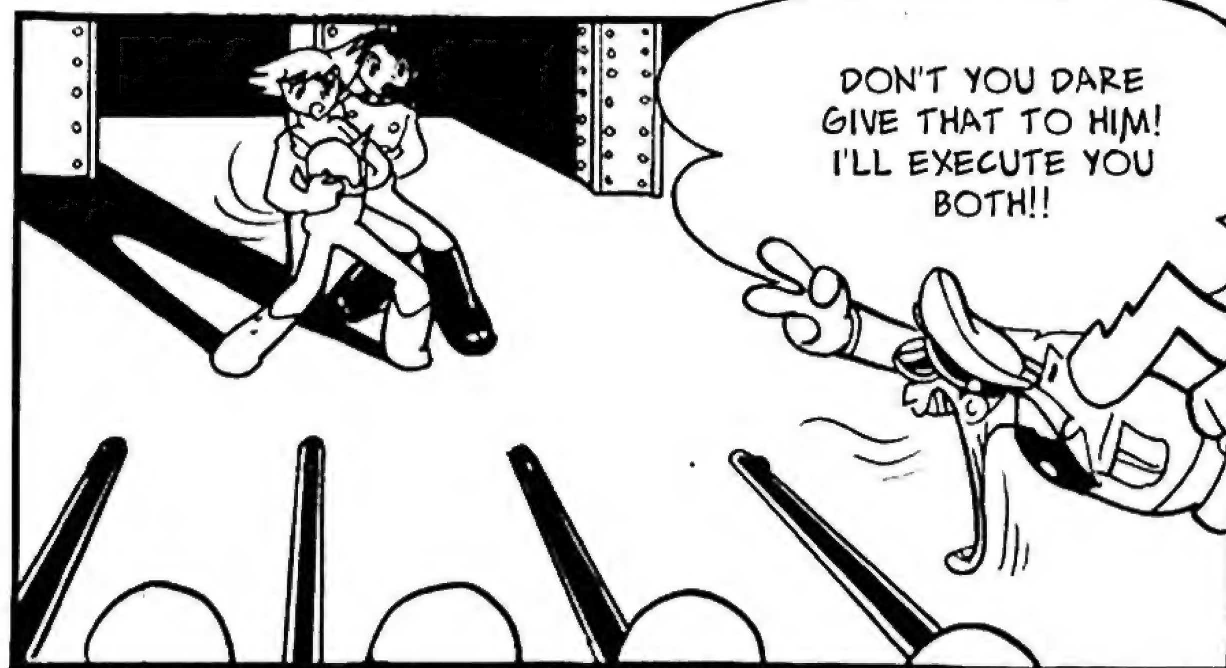

IT LEAD TO A TAPE RECORDER WITH THE PRESIDENT'S VOICE ON IT.
WHAT DOES IT MEAN?


SIR, WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, UNTIL I FIGURE OUT WHAT THIS CONSPIRACY IS ALL ABOUT, I'M NOT GOING TO BE A PART OF THIS
DON'T SHOOT!

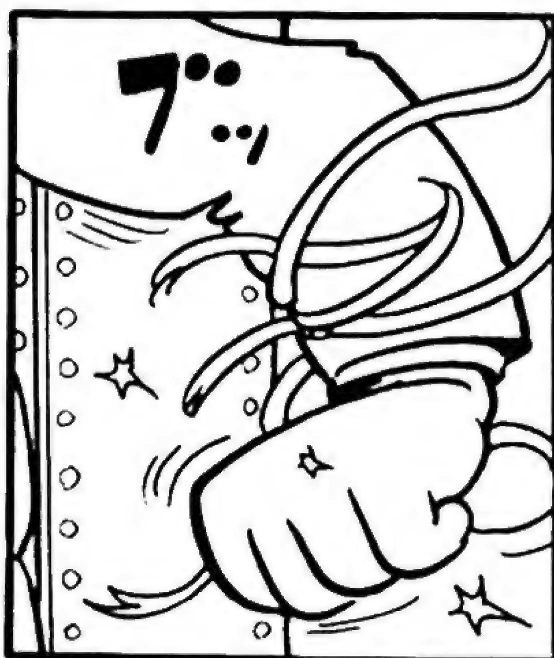

IF YOU DON'T GET OUT OF THE WAY I'LL SHOOT YOU BOTH!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TWO TALKING ABOUT?

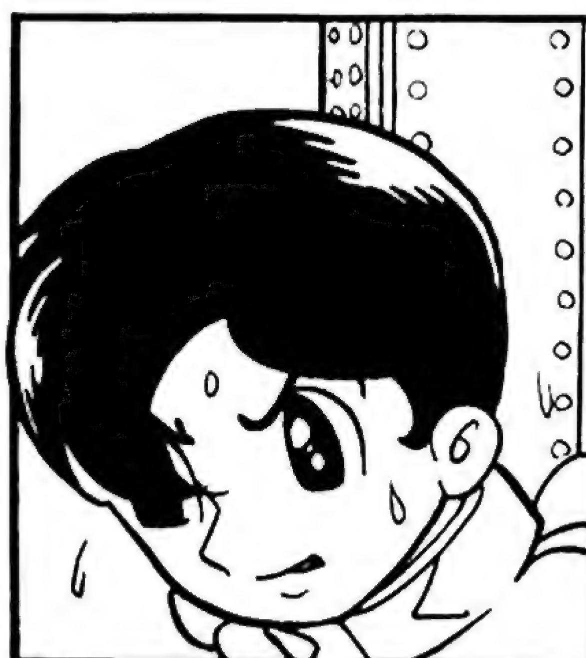

YOU TWIST IT AND THE DRUG COMES OUT


COME ON! COME ON PLEASE!
THE PEN! PLEASE LET ME HAVE THE CONTENTS OF IT!


DON'T YOU DARE GIVE THAT TO HIM! I'LL EXECUTE YOU BOTH!!


THANK YOU!



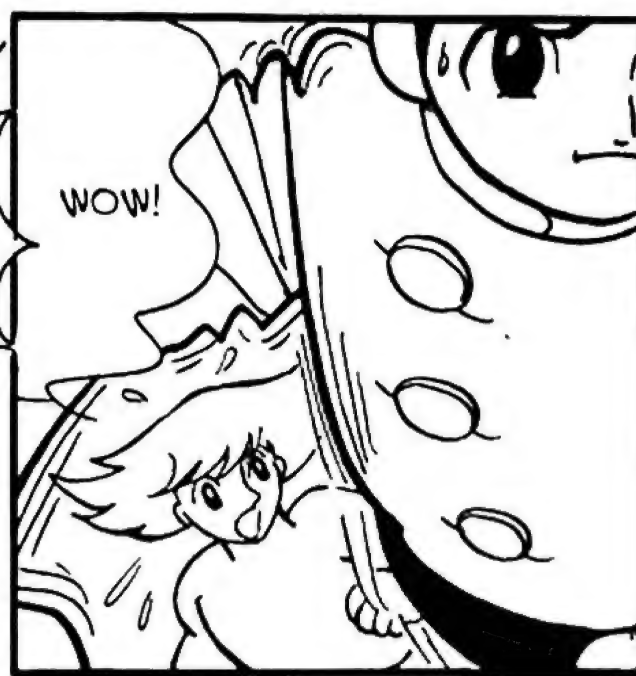


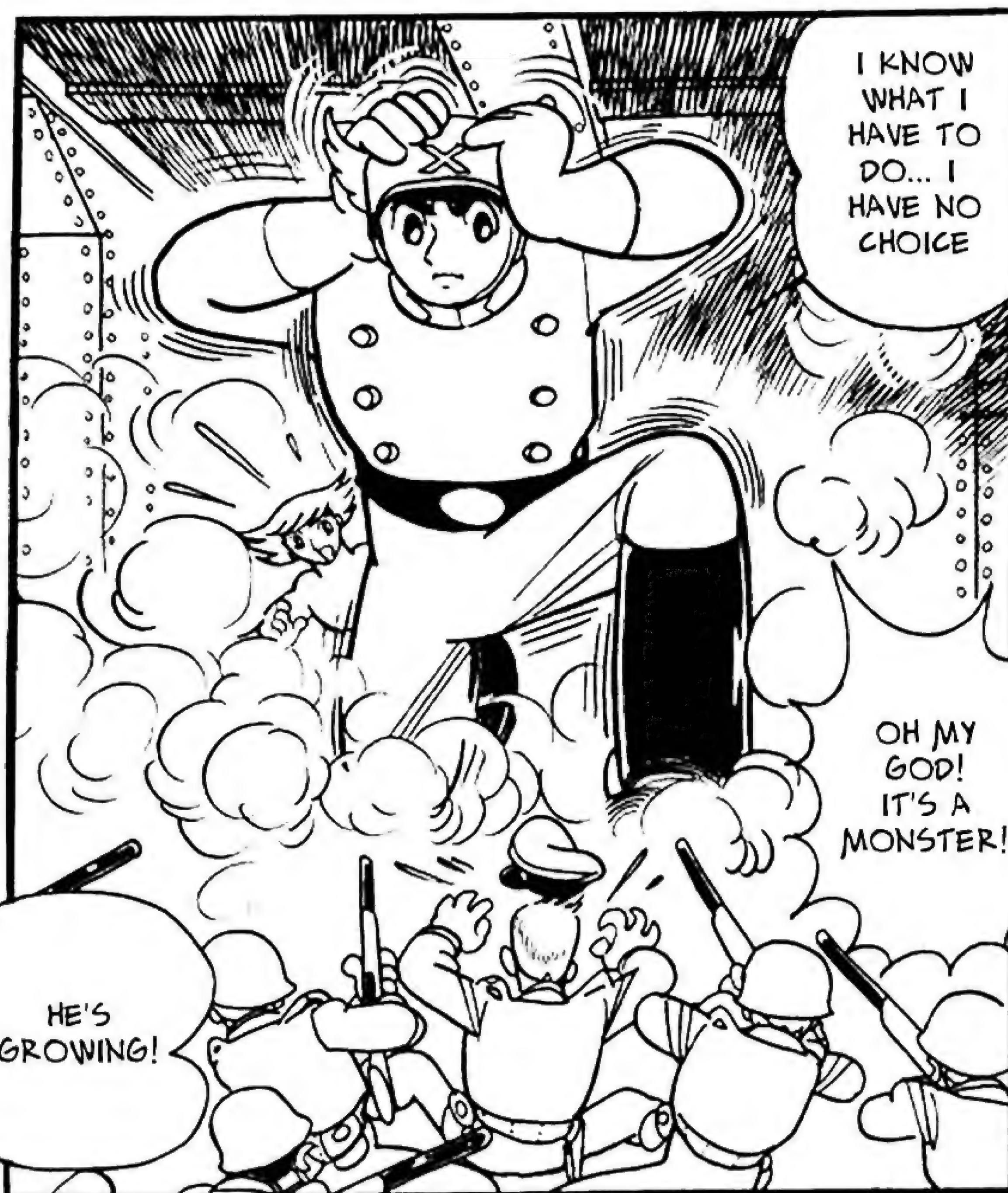

FIRE!







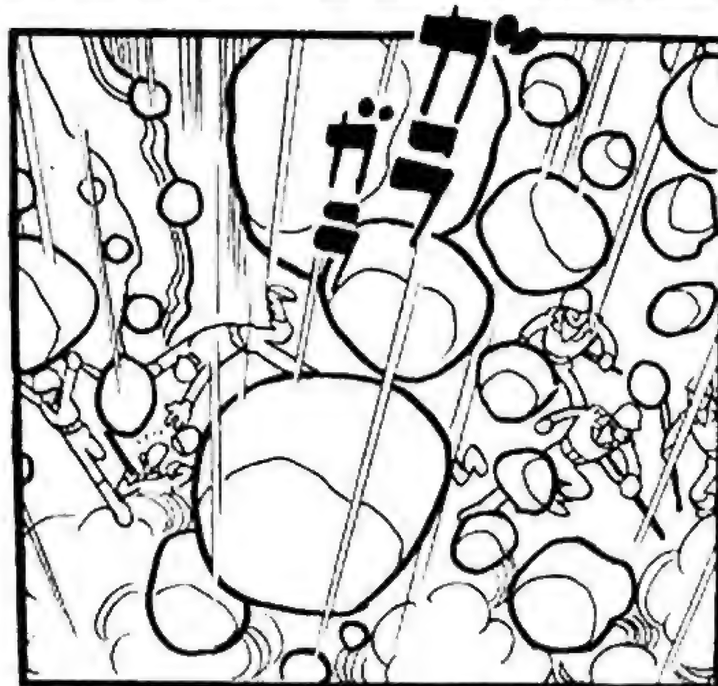


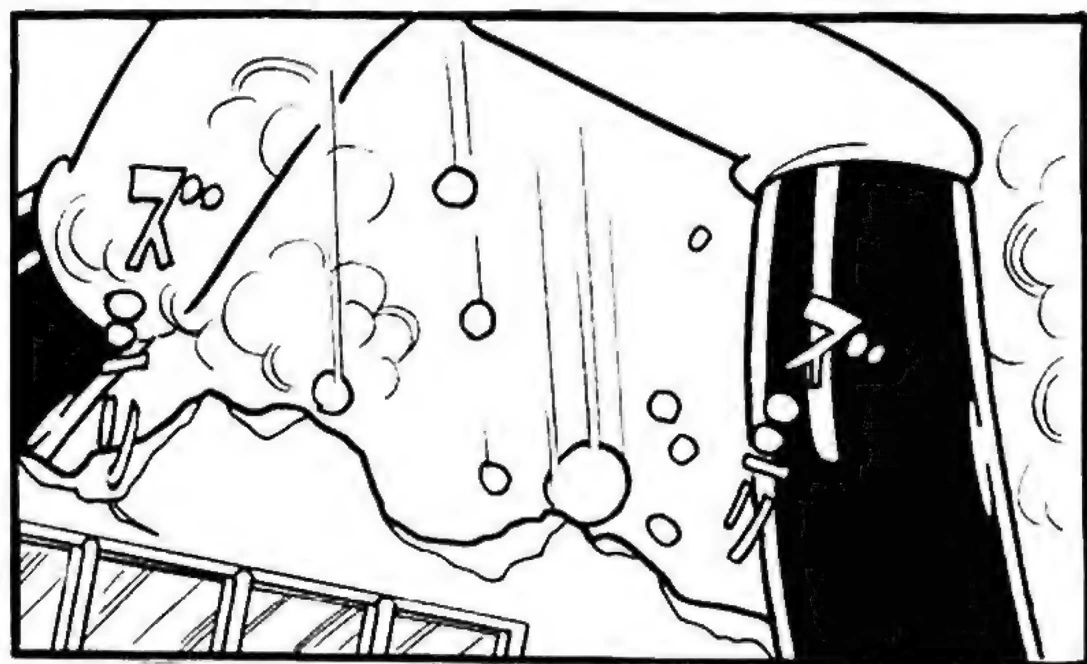

I KNOW WHAT I HAVE TO DO... I HAVE NO CHOICE
OH MY GOD! IT'S A MONSTER!
WOW!


HE'S GROWING!


COMMANDER. PLEASE TELL YOUR SUPERIORS THAT FOR EVERYONE'S SAFETY I'M DISPOSING OF THE CAPE BARBERA BASE

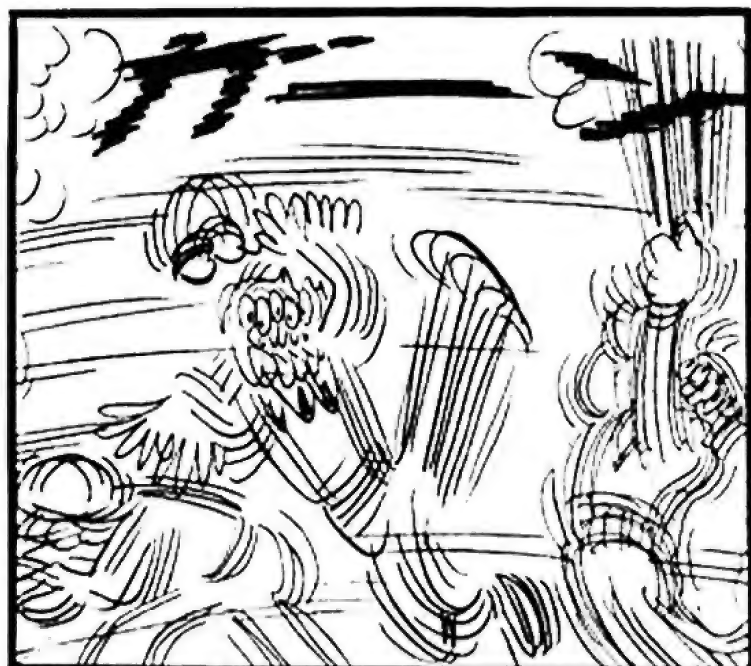
ガバーーッ!



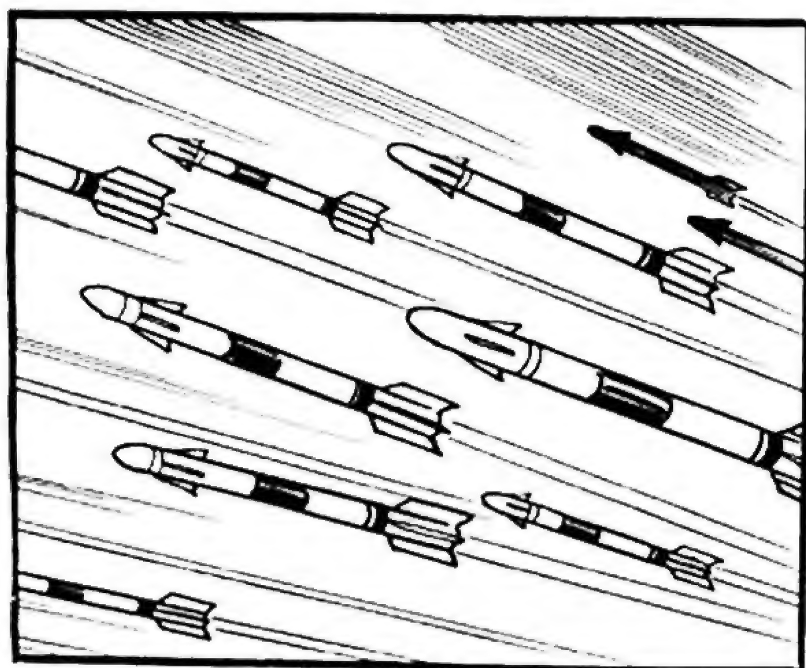



IT'S A WASTE OF TIME AND AMMUNITION

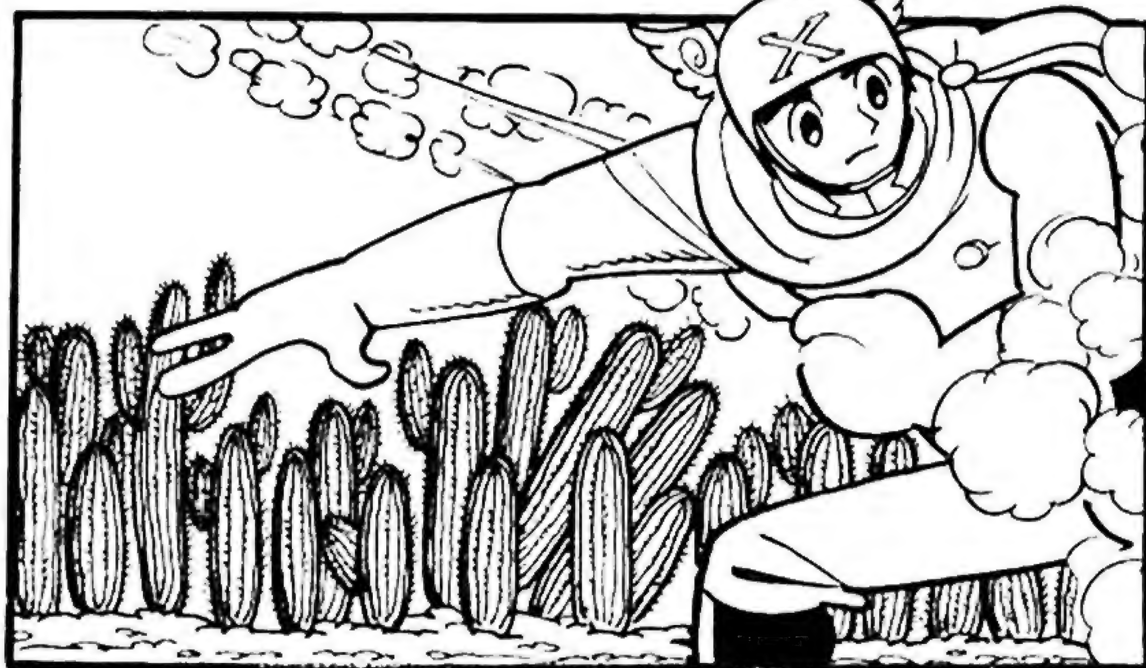

SHOOT! SOMEBODY SHOOT HIM!!



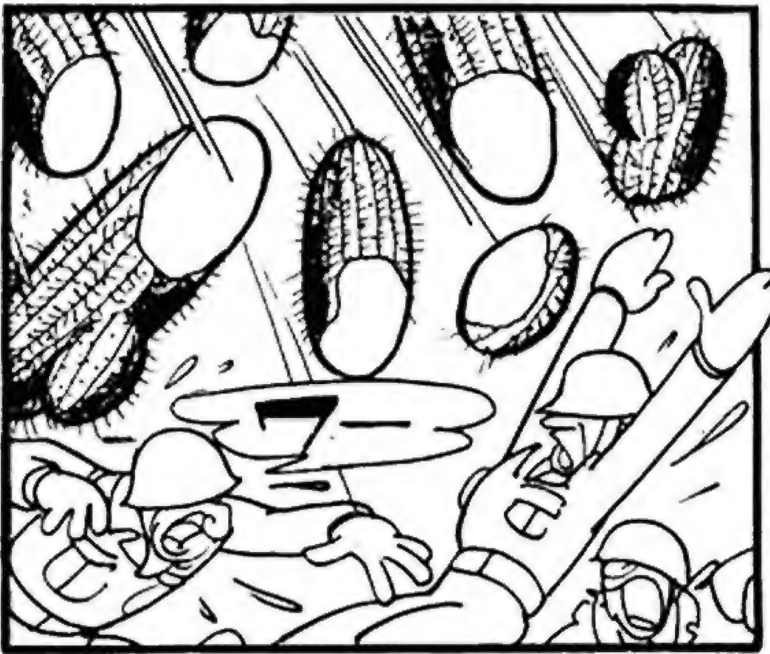


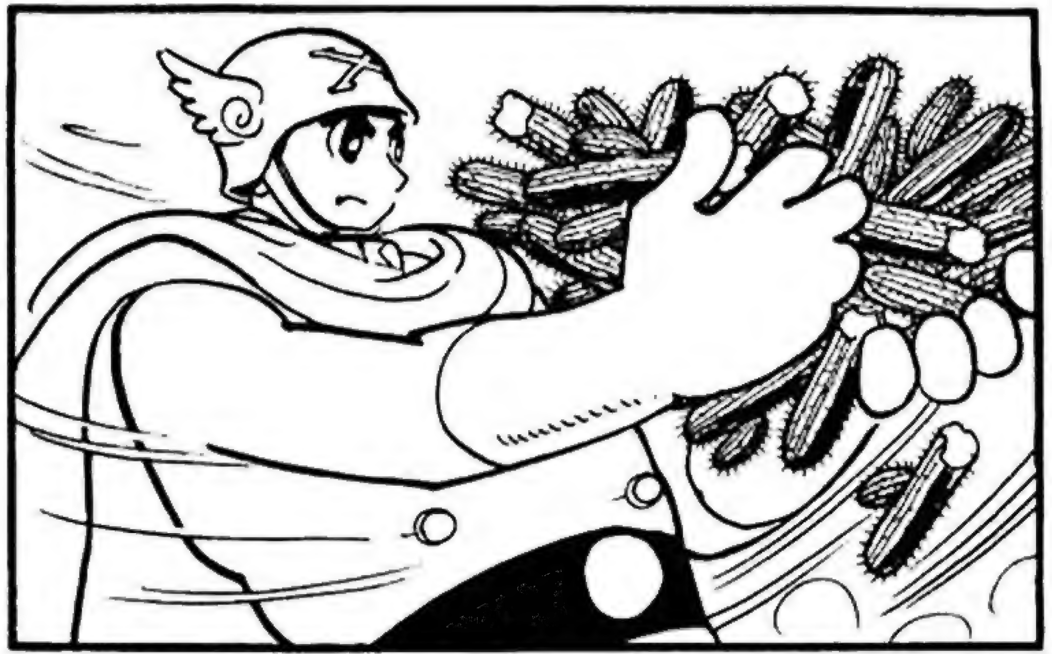


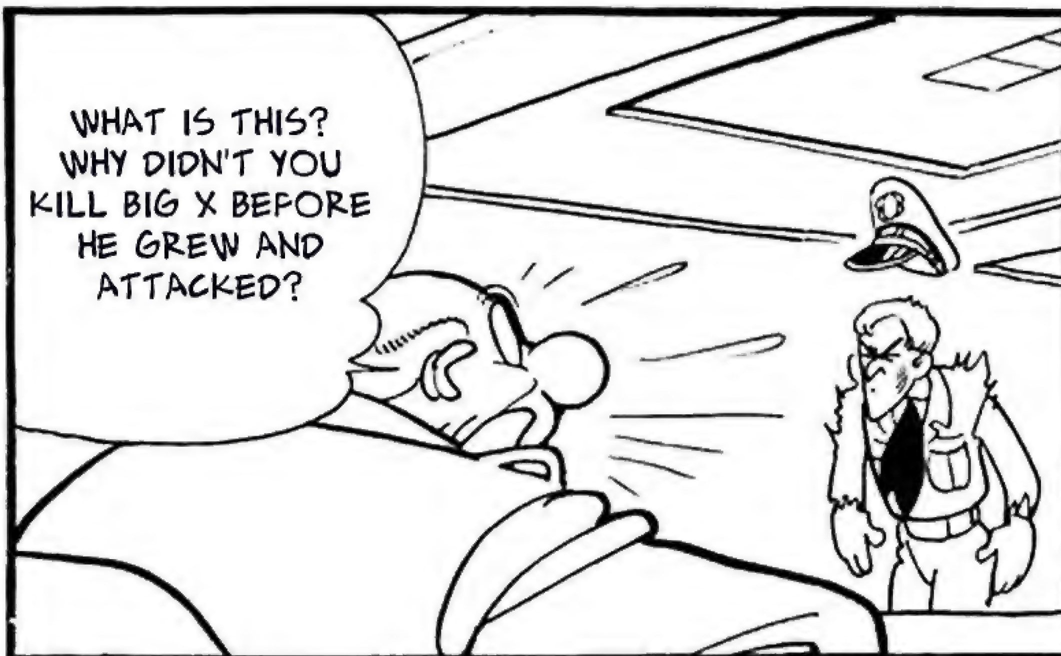


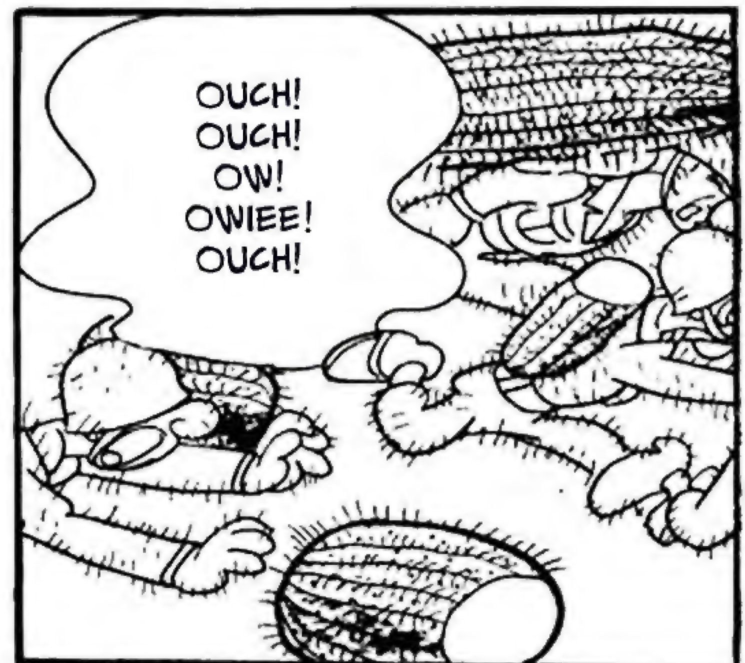





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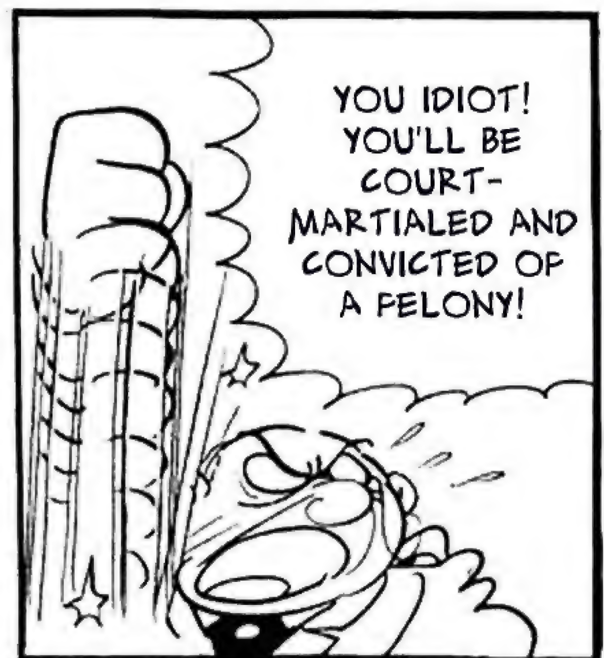



WHAT IS THIS? WHY DIDN'T YOU KILL BIG X BEFORE HE GREW AND ATTACKED?


OUCH! OUCH! OW! OWIEE! OUCH!

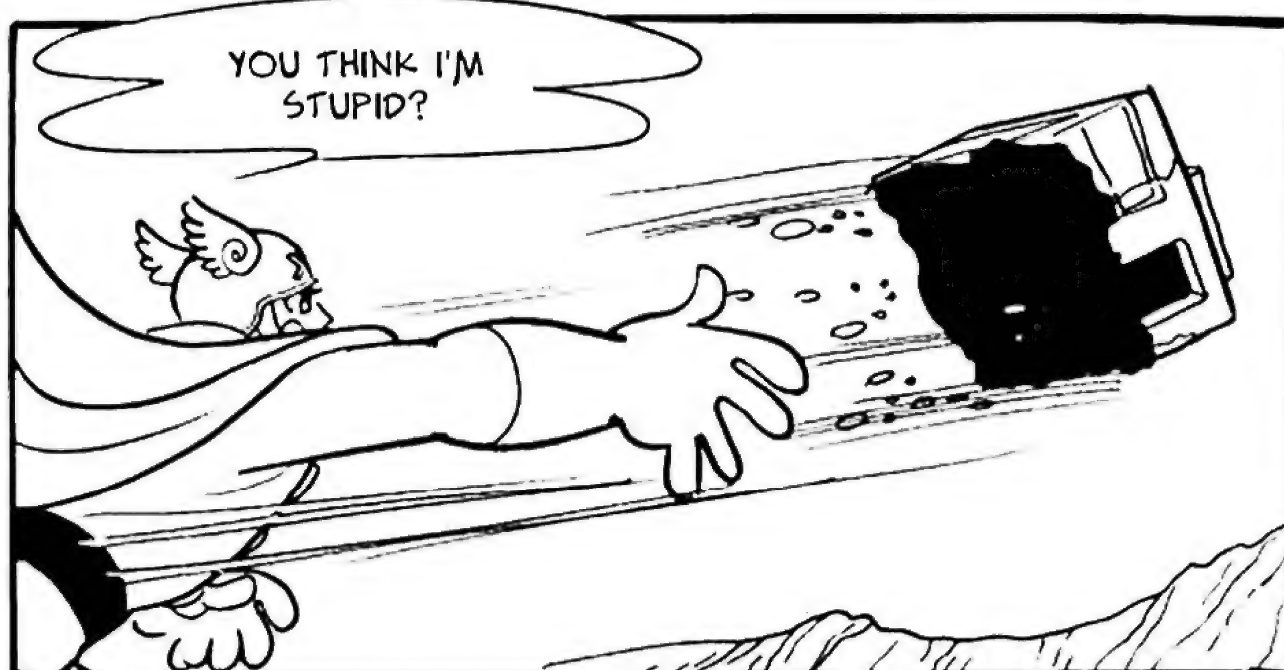

HELP! AMBULANCE....


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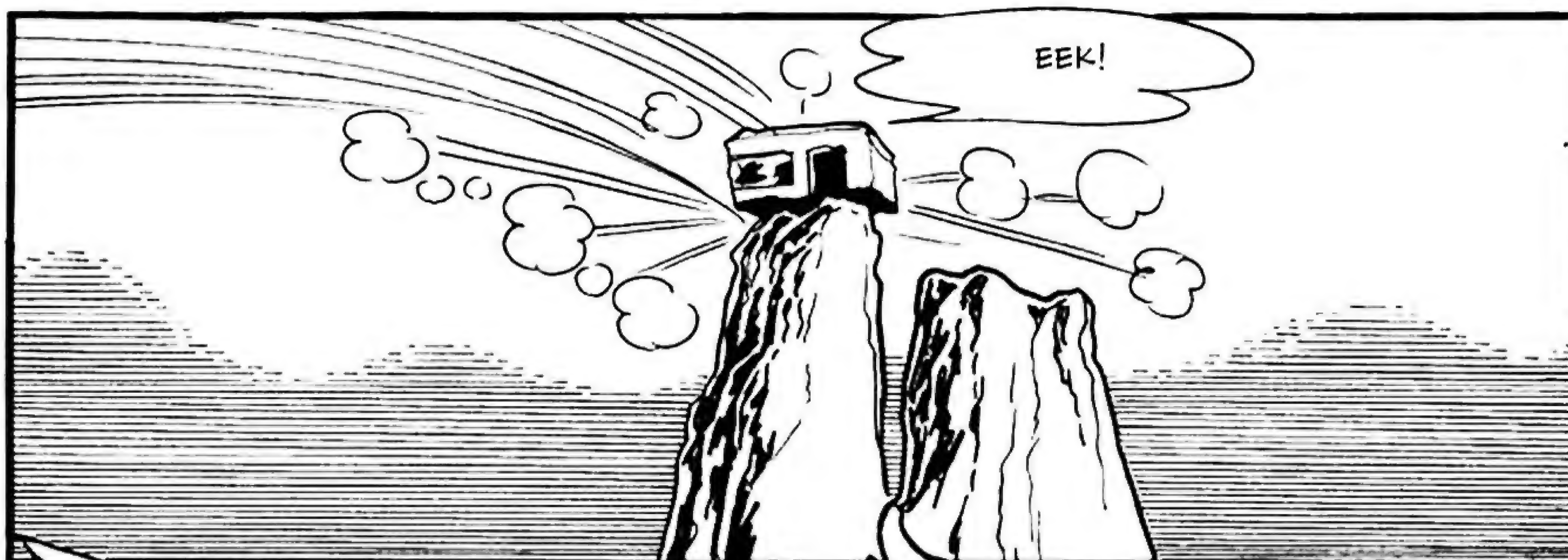

YOU IDIOT! YOU'LL BE COURT-MARTIALED AND CONVICTED OF A FELONY!

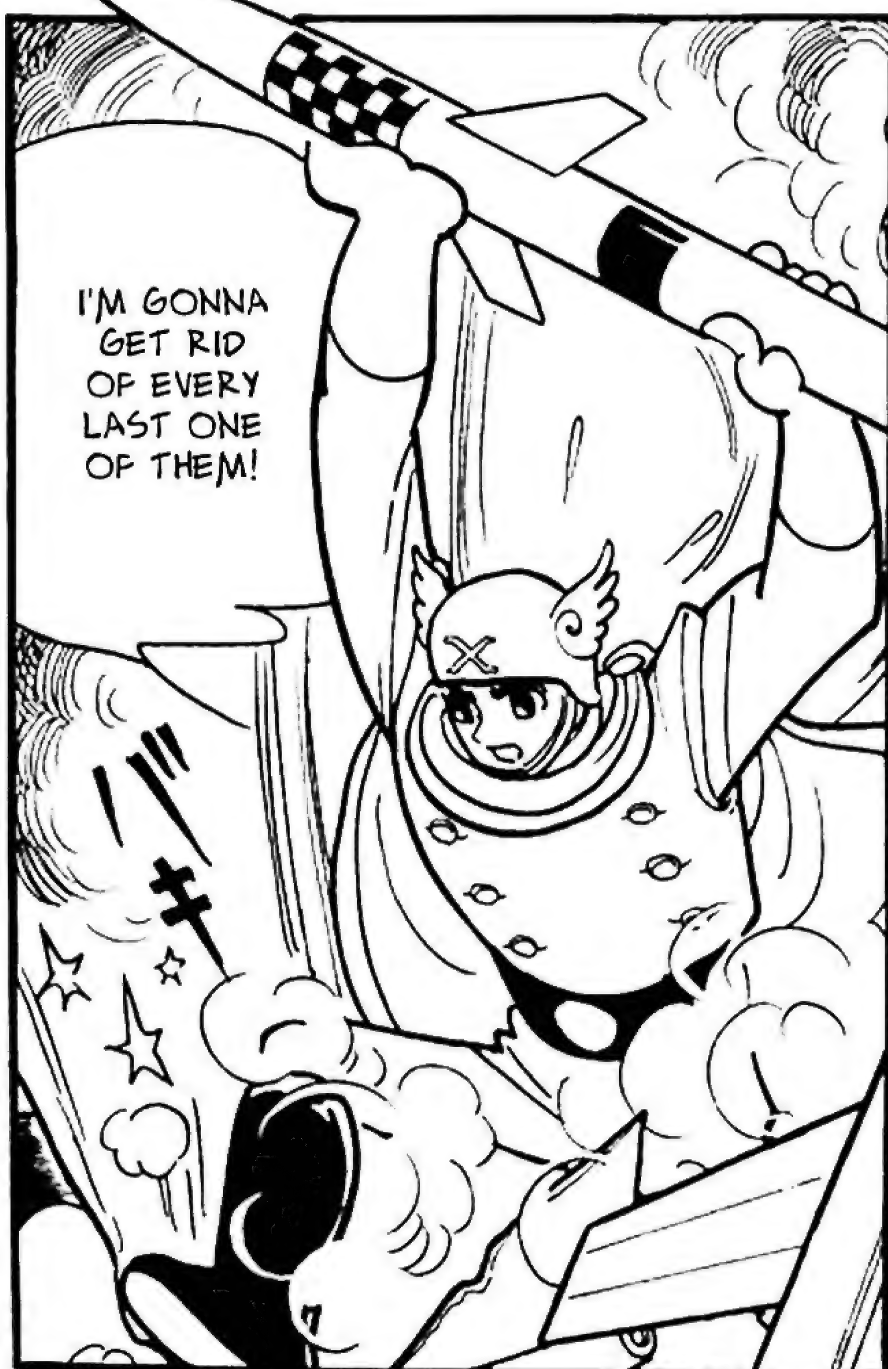

WAS IT YOU WHO PUT THE TAPE OF THE PRESIDENT'S ORDERS ON THE PHONE?
I WASN'T ME! I DON'T KNOW WHO DID IT!

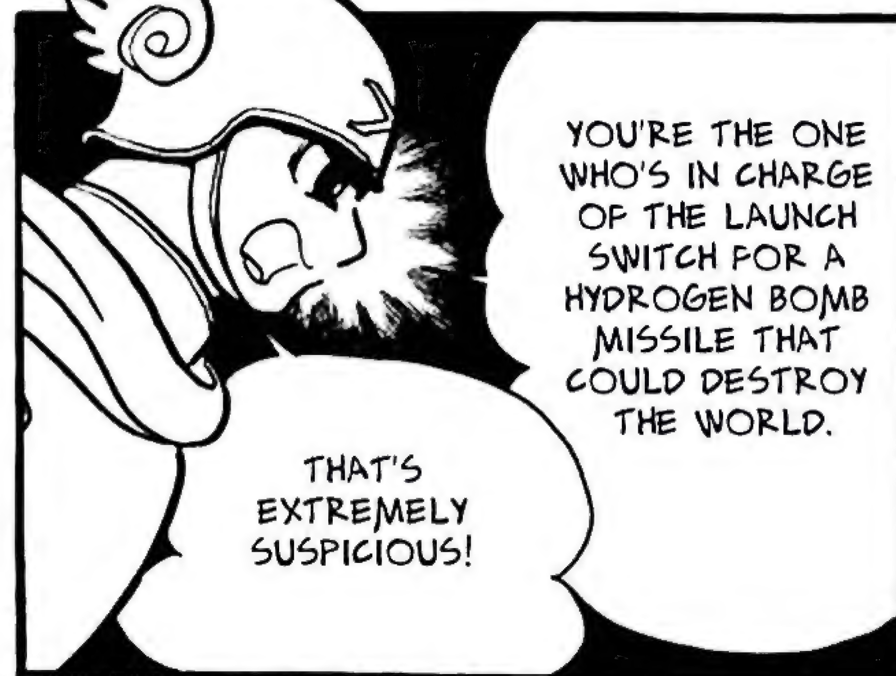

COMMANDER! THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO ASK YOU


YOU THINK I'M STUPID?


SOMEONE MUST HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT MY KNOWLEDGE

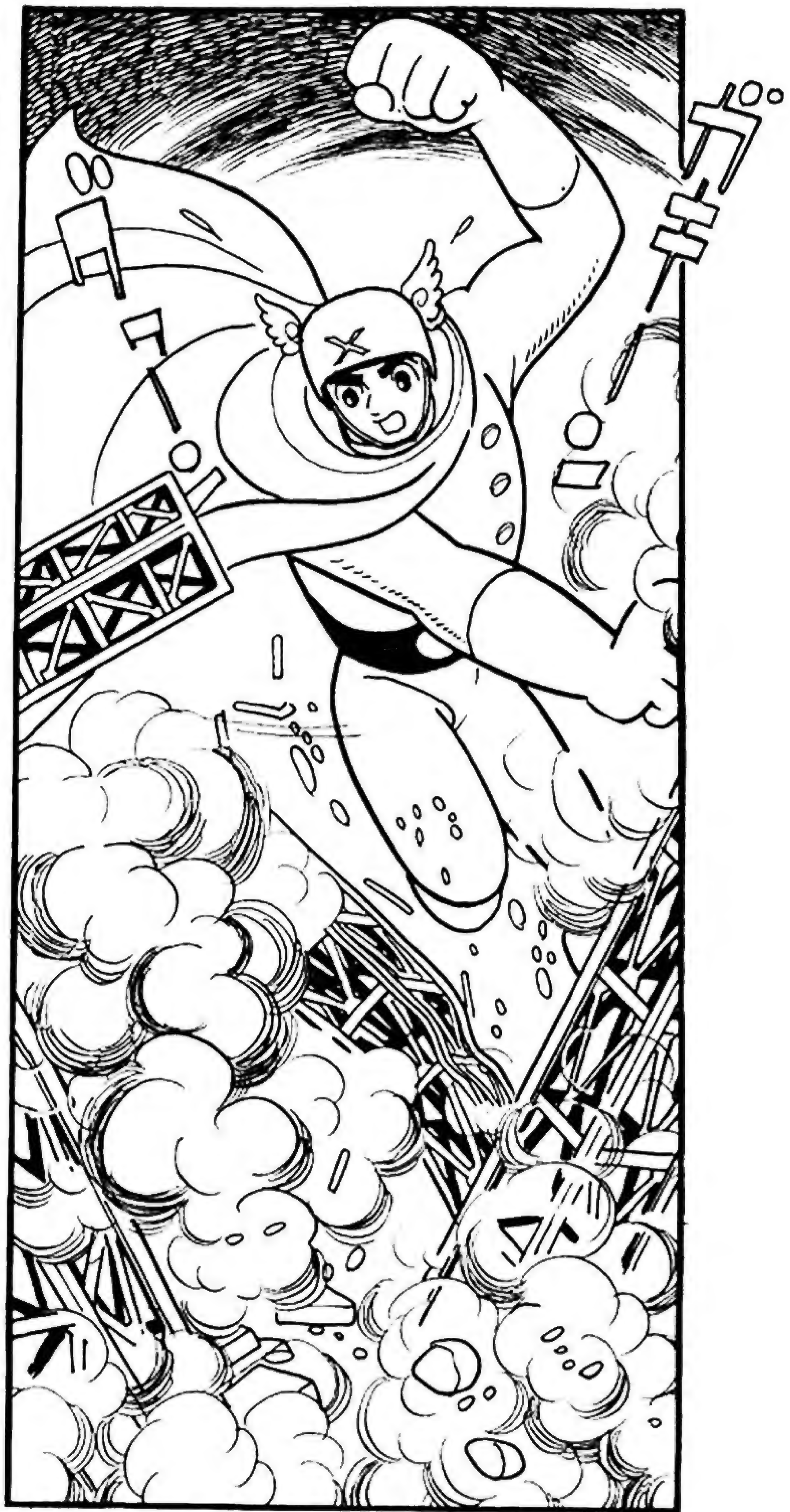

EEK!


I'M GONNA GET RID OF EVERY LAST ONE OF THEM!
バキ


YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S IN CHARGE OF THE LAUNCH SWITCH FOR A HYDROGEN BOMB MISSILE THAT COULD DESTROY THE WORLD.
THAT'S EXTREMELY SUSPICIOUS!


THERE'S THE MISSILES

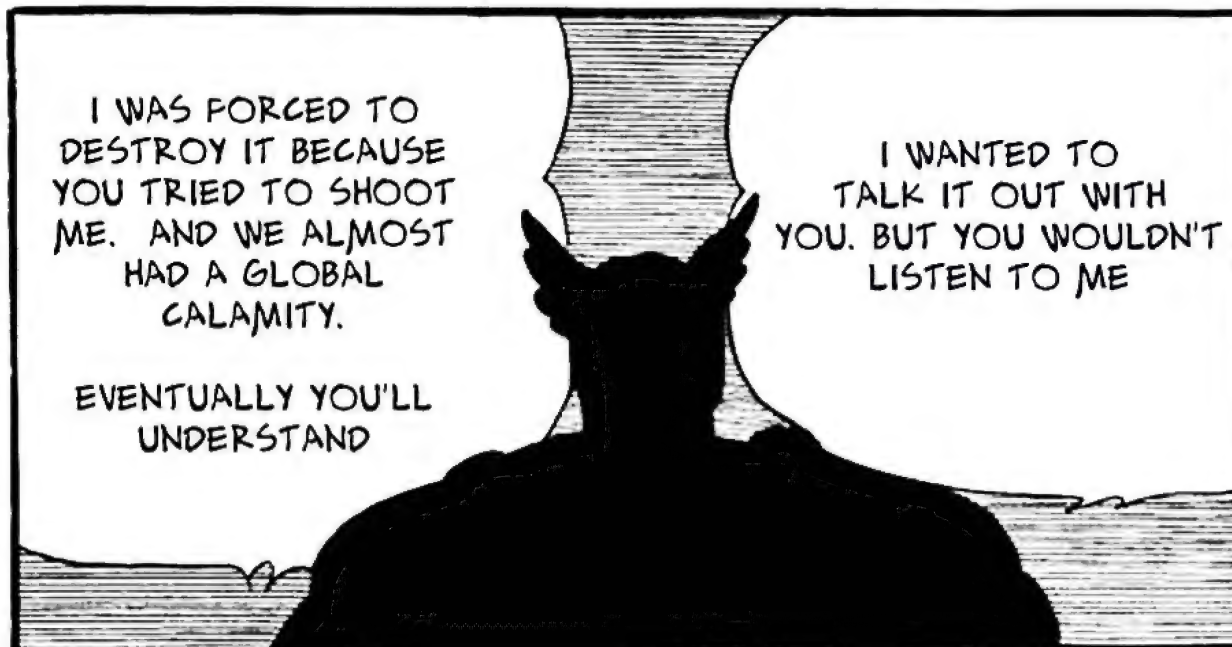


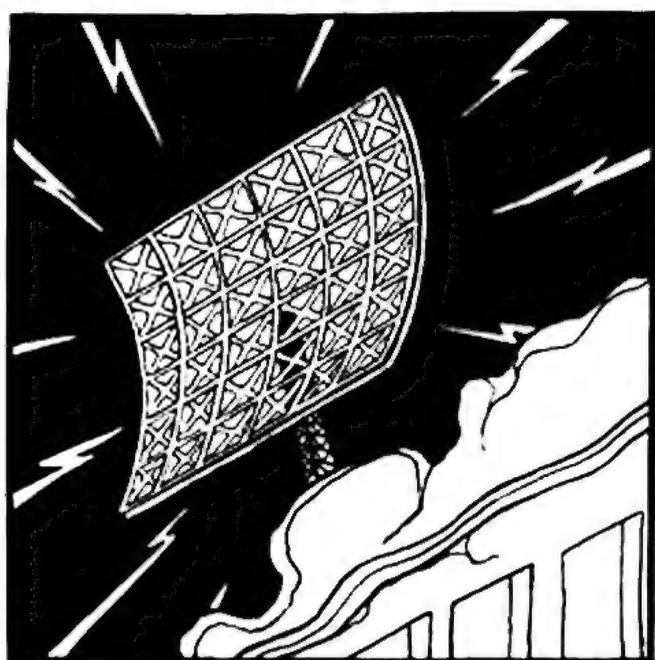


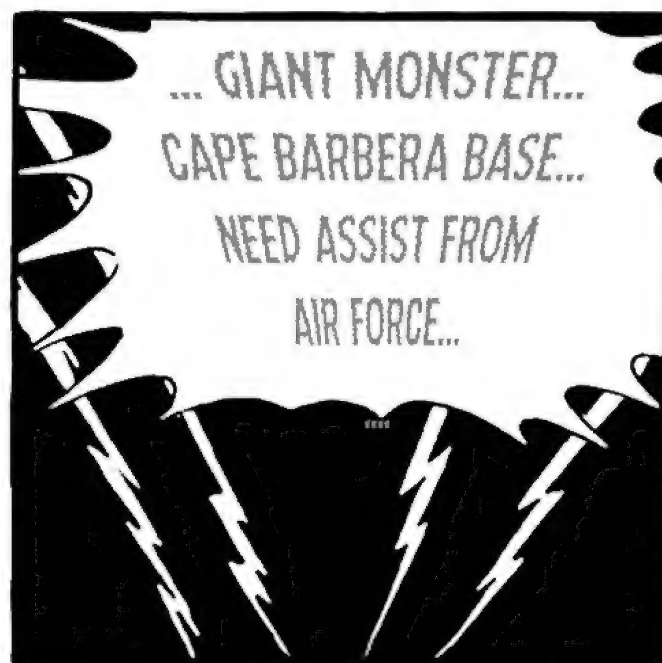

HE'S DESTROYED THEM ALL

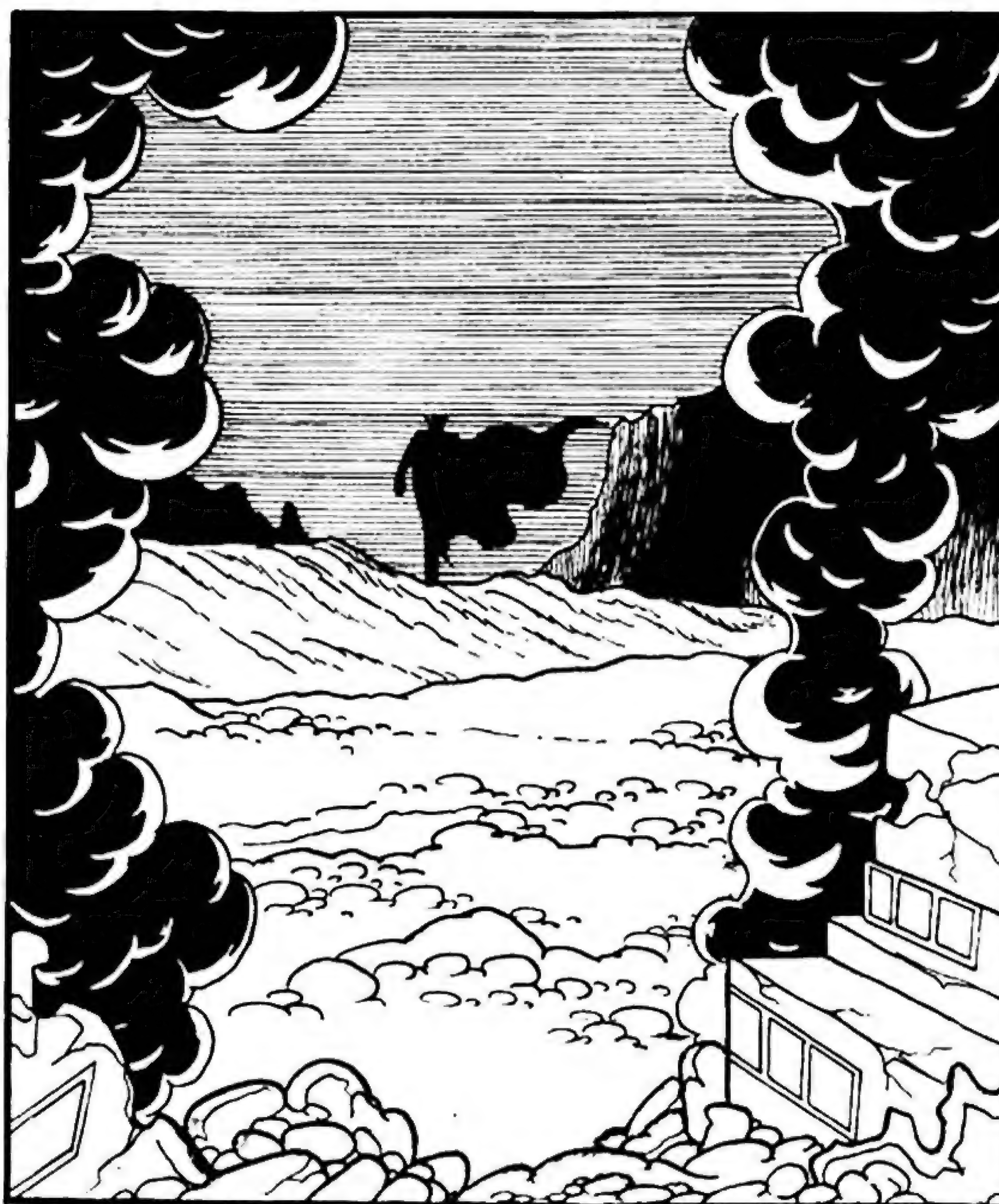

SORRY I HAD TO BUST UP YOUR BASE...
GENTLEMEN, LISTEN UP... I'M GOING TO NEW YORK


WELL THEN ...

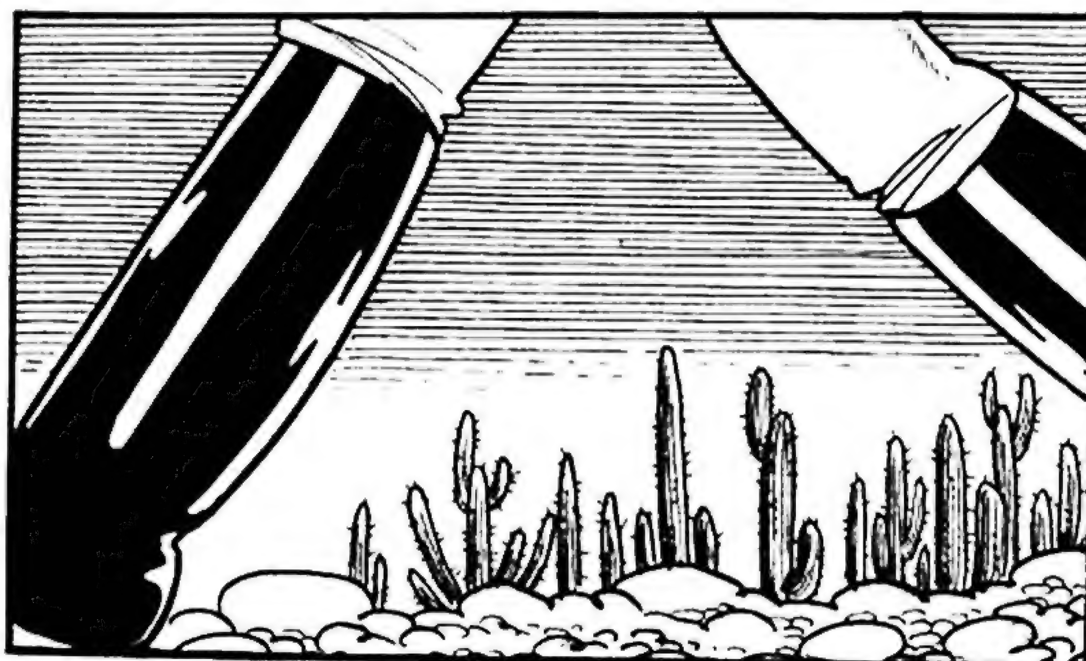

I WANTED TO TALK IT OUT WITH YOU. BUT YOU WOULDN'T LISTEN TO ME
I WAS FORCED TO DESTROY IT BECAUSE YOU TRIED TO SHOOT ME. AND WE ALMOST HAD A GLOBAL CALAMITY.
EVENTUALLY YOU'LL UNDERSTAND

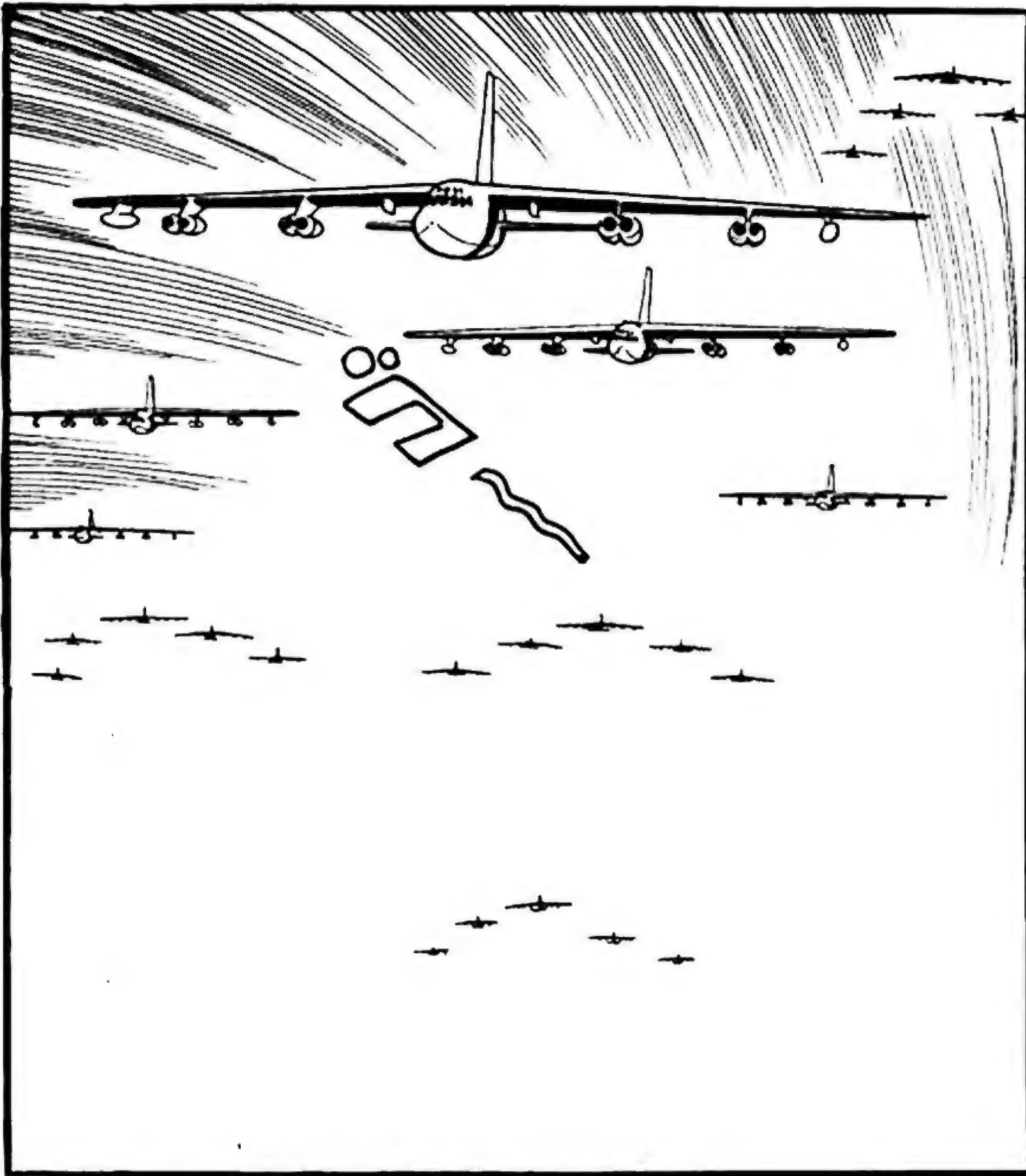



... GIANT MONSTER...
CAPE BARBERA BASE...
NEED ASSIST FROM
AIR FORCE...

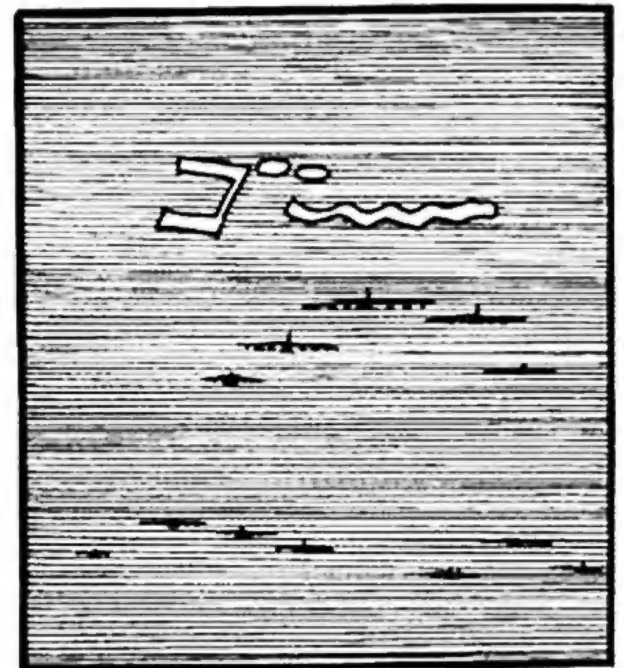


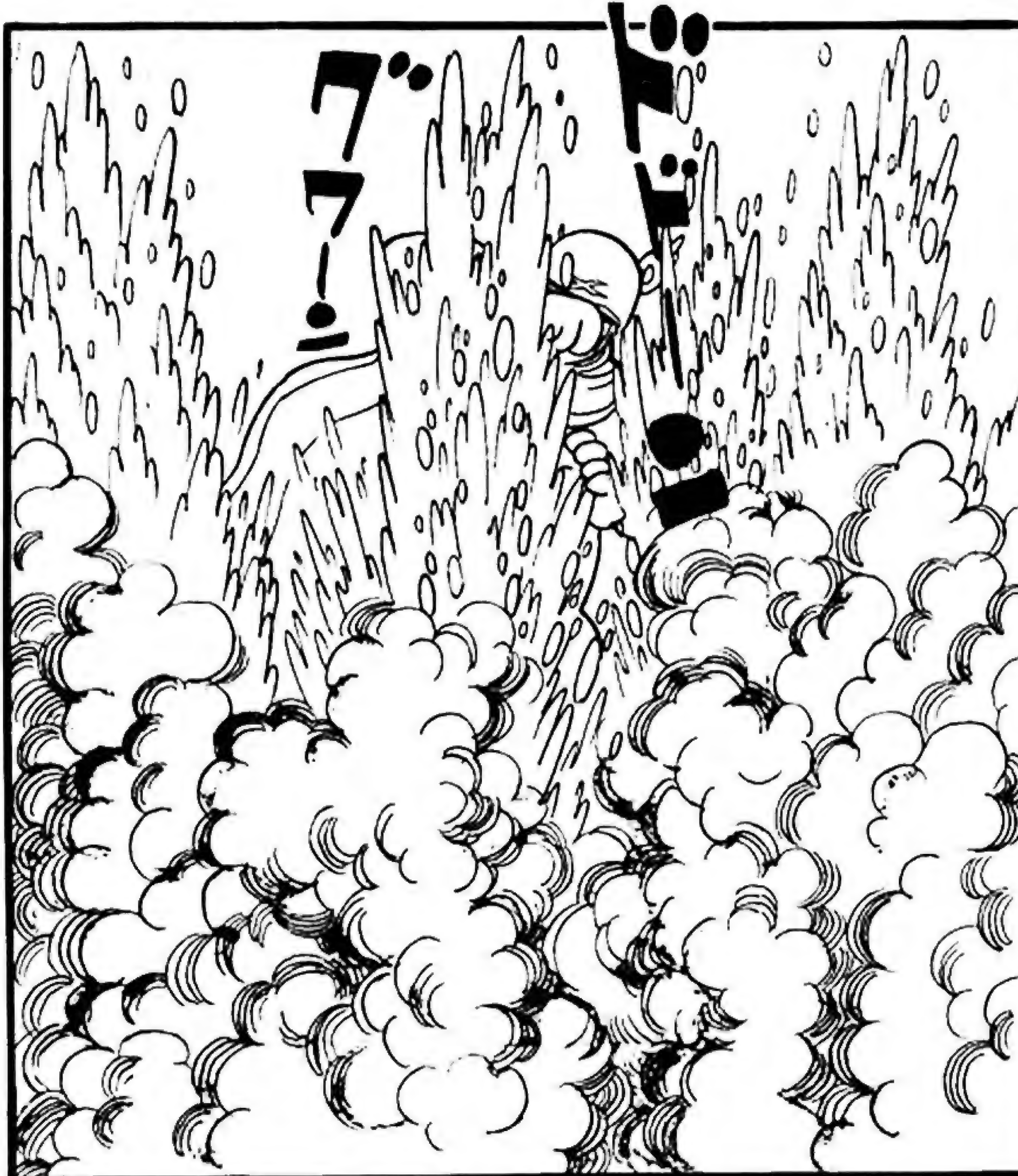







HUH?





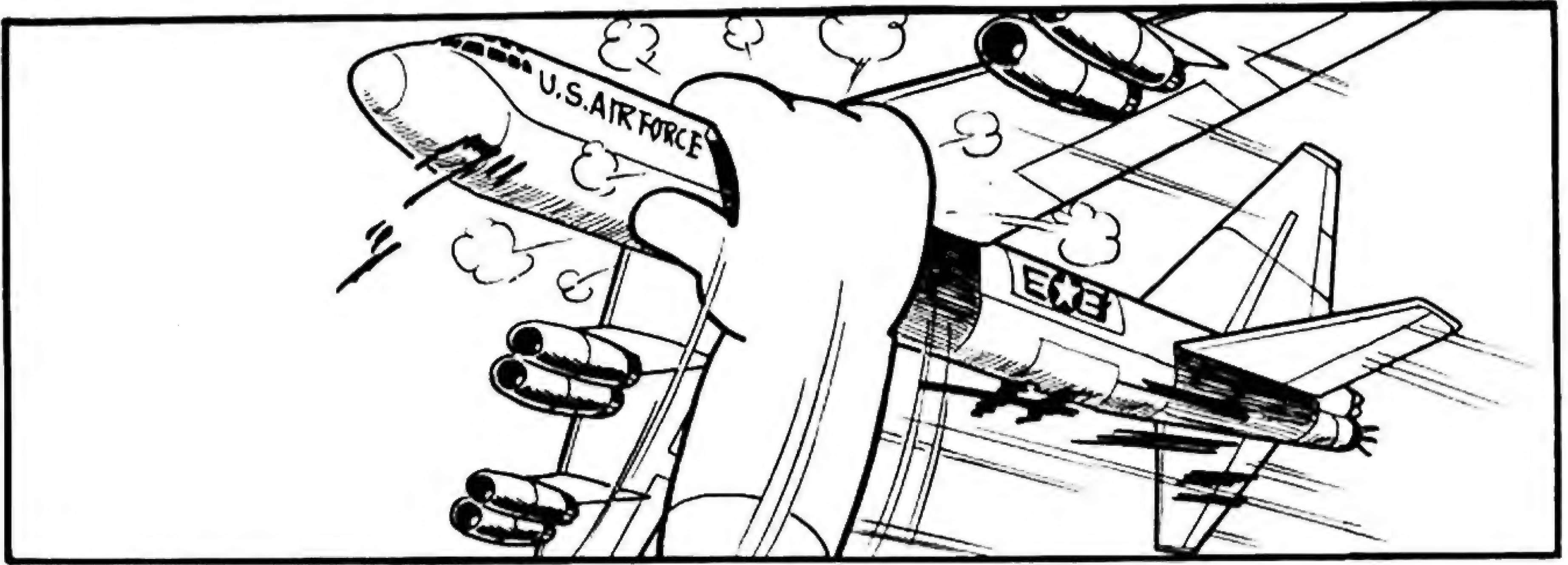



I CAN'T STICK AROUND HERE. I'LL BE LATE GETTING TO NEW YORK


THE AIR FORCE... THAT'S ANNOYING


WELL MAYBE THIS WILL BE USEFUL

EEYAAAH!

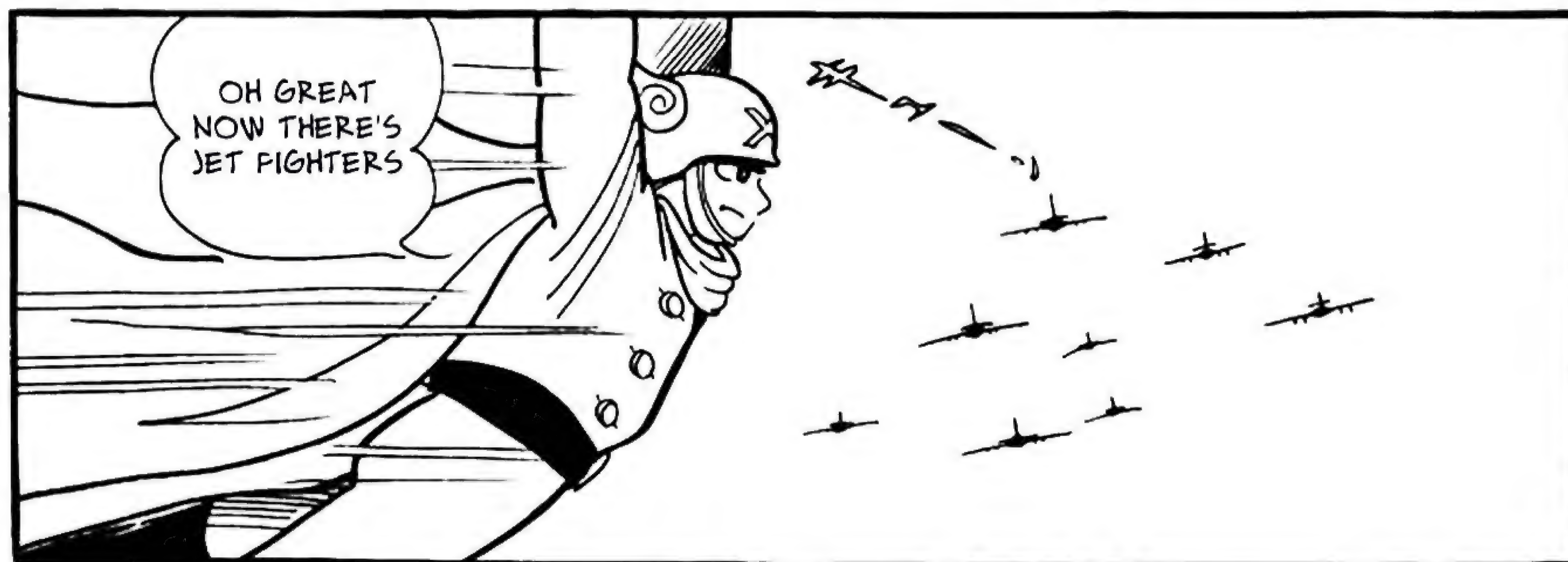


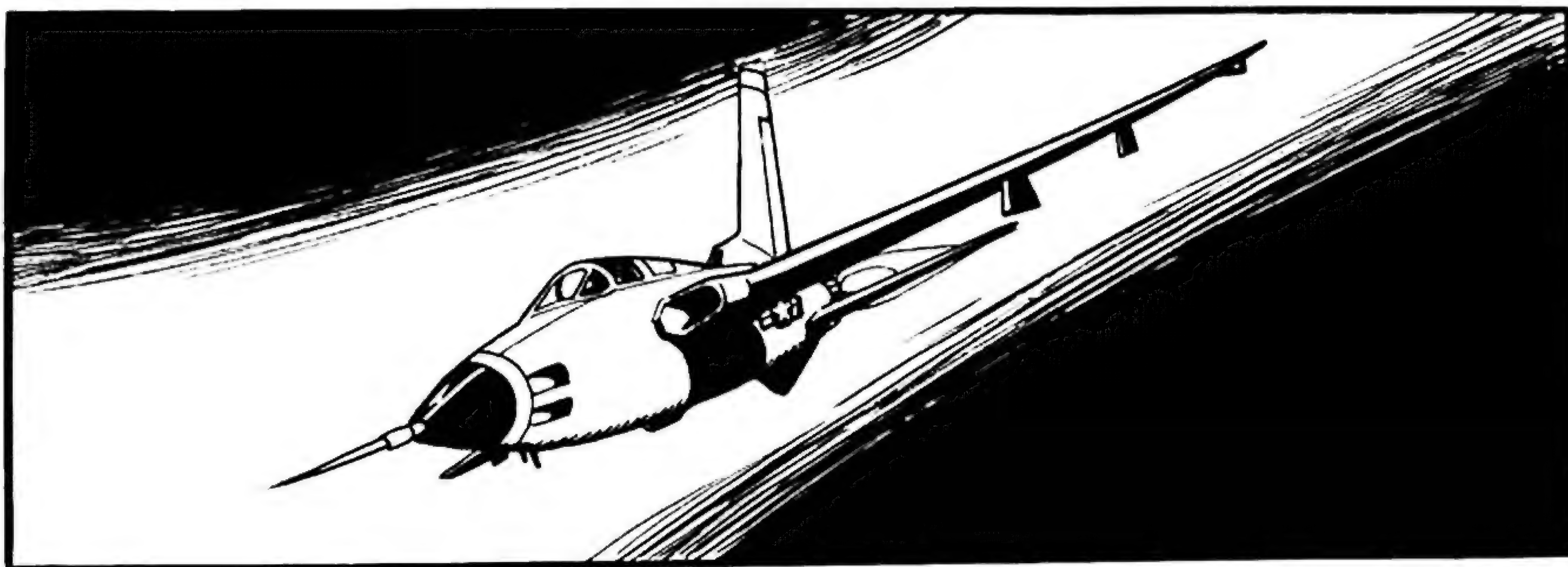
FLY LIKE I TELL YOU! IF YOU DON'T FOLLOW MY ORDERS I'LL TEAR YOUR ENGINES OFF

U.S. AIR FORCE

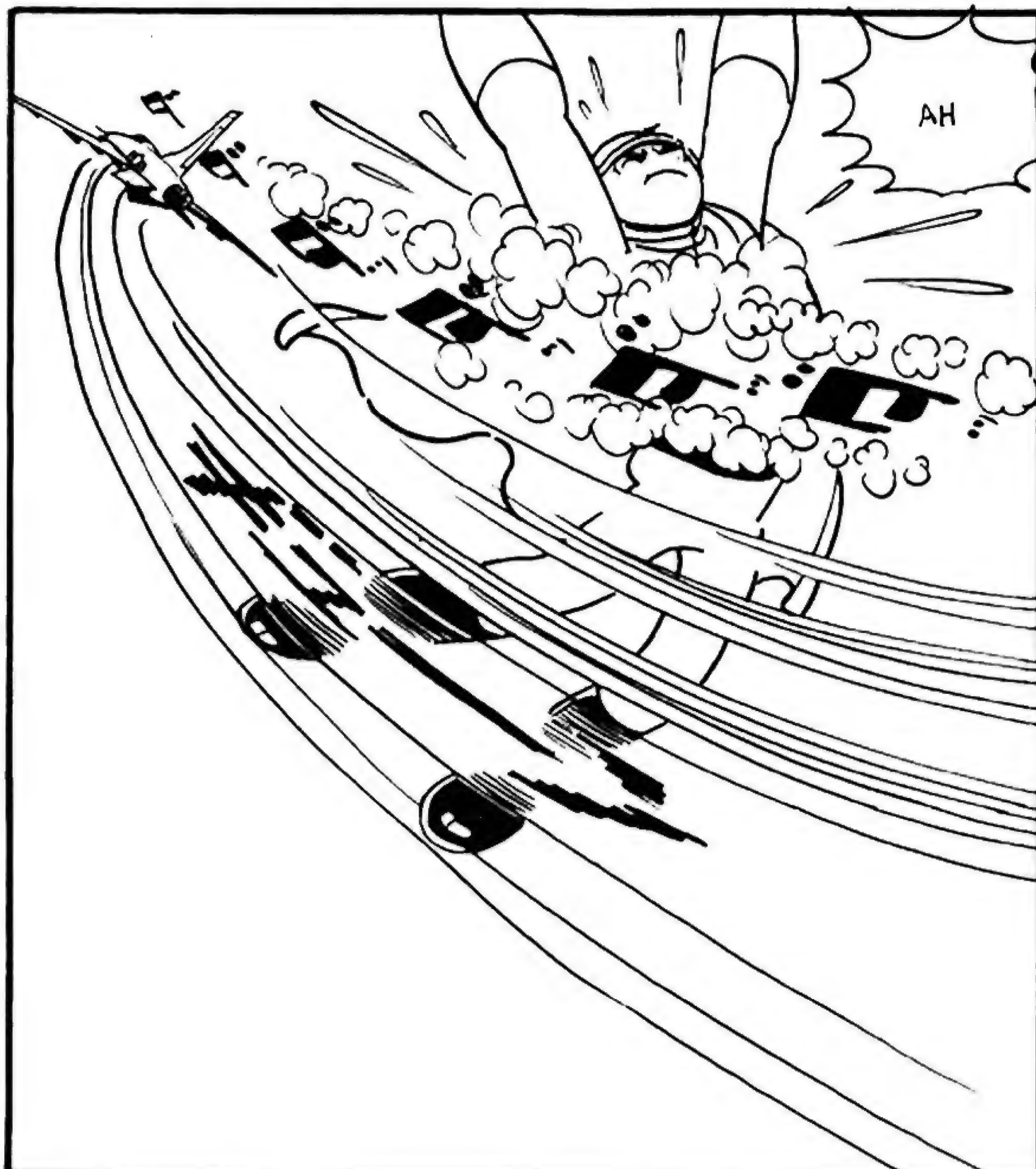
U.S. AIR FORCE

LET'S GO TO NEW YORK



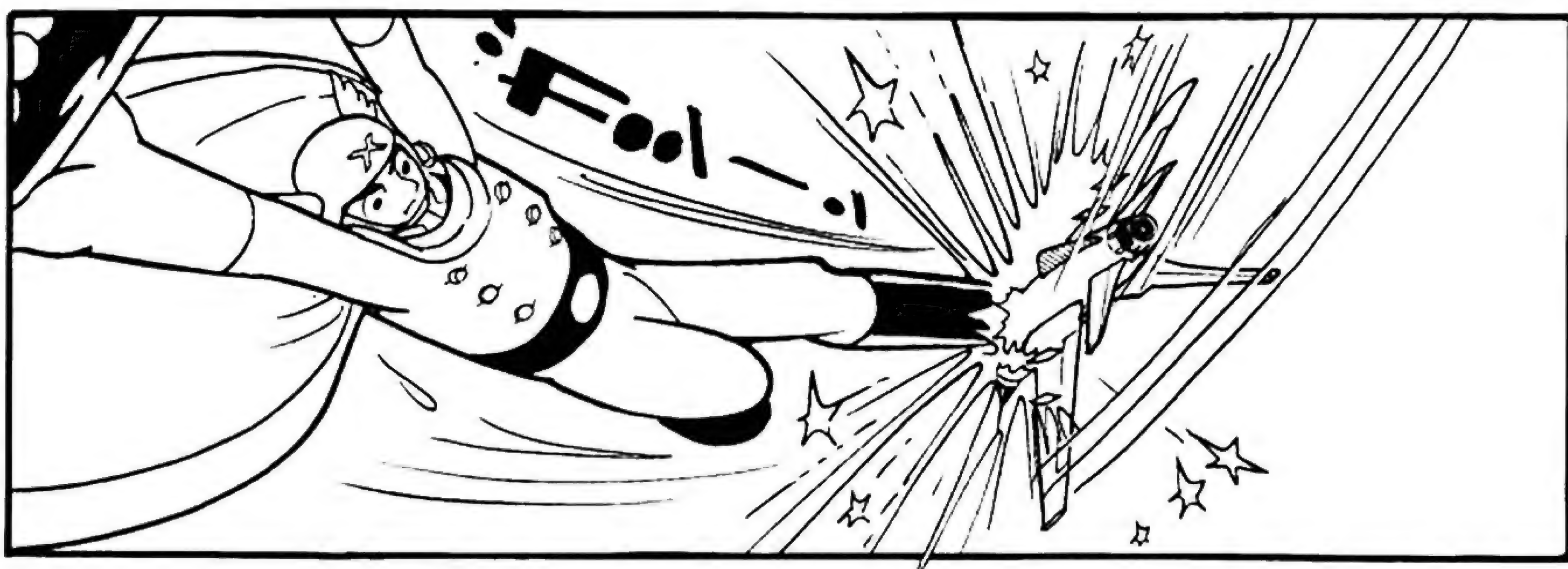


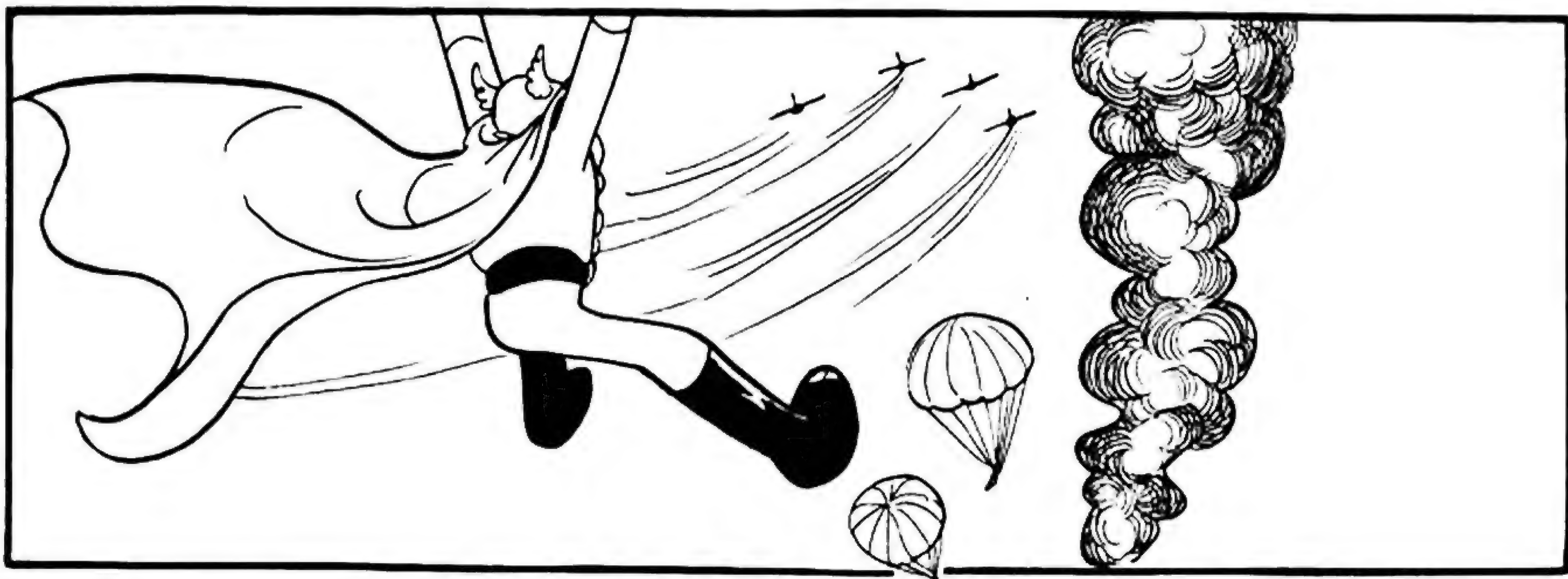
COME ON, GET OVER IT! NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU SHOOT ME IT'S NOT WORTH IT


AH


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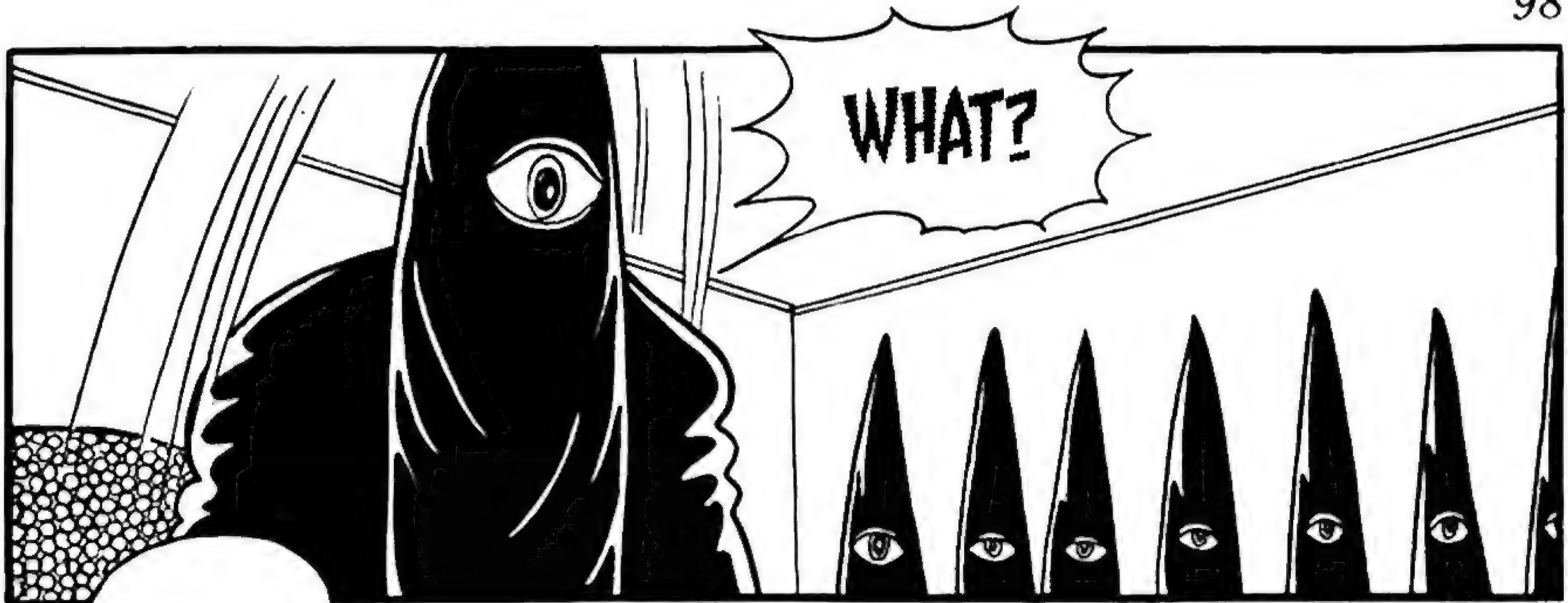

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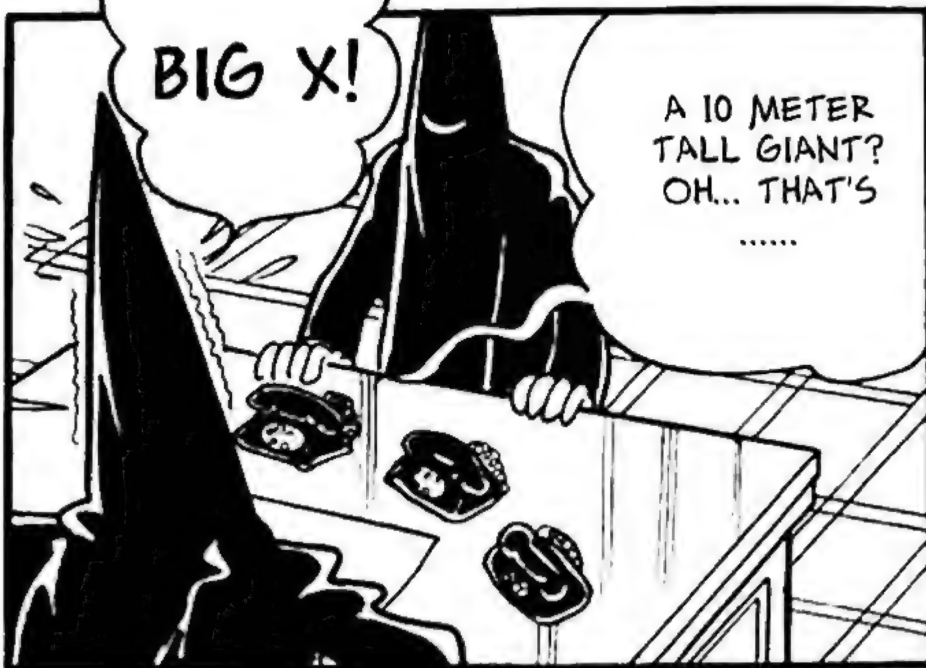


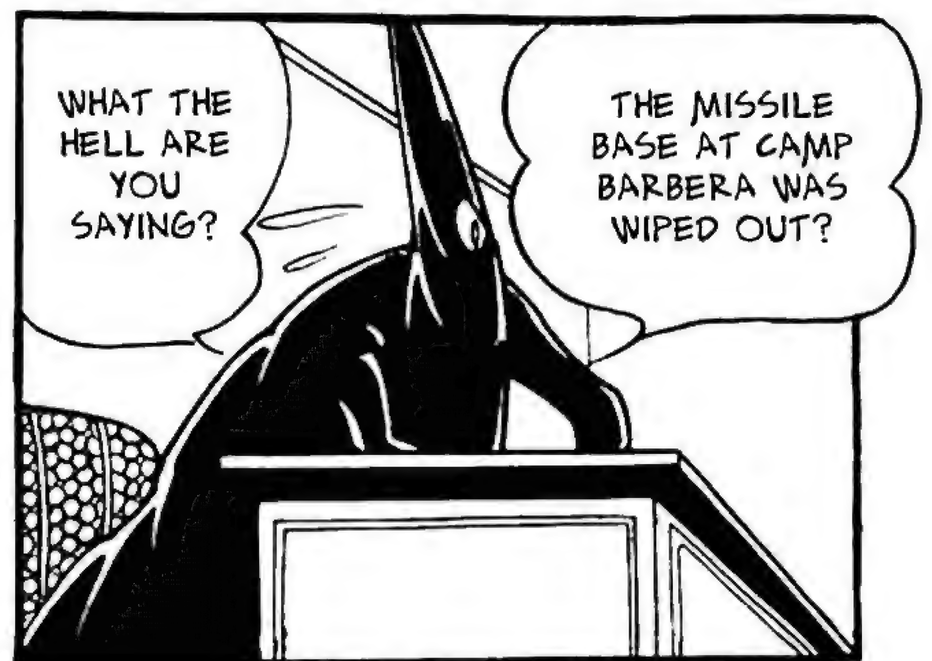


CHAPTER 14

THE END OF THE CROSS PARTY


WHAT?

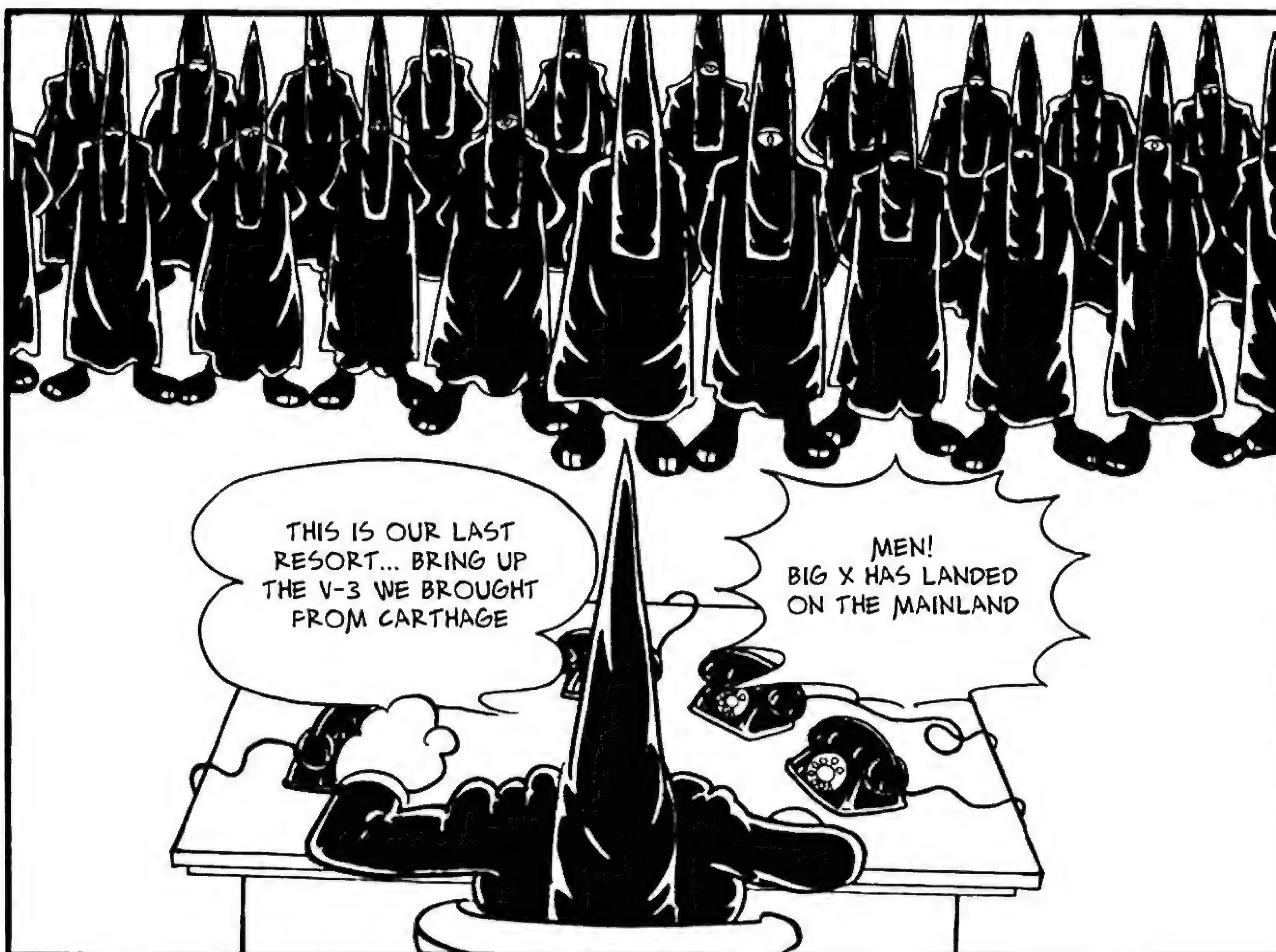

BIG X!
A 10 METER TALL GIANT? OH... THAT'S ......


THE MISSILE BASE AT CAMP BARBERA WAS WIPED OUT?
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU SAYING?


GRRRRRR!


CHIEF! BIG X IS FLYING TOWARDS US HOLDING ONTO JET PLANES!
HE'LL BE IN NEW YORK IN 30 MINUTES


THE PRESIDENT IS IN DANGER IF THE PUBLIC FINDS OUT THE TRUTH



THE LIGHTS OF NEW YORK! ALMOST THERE!

UGH... OH NO, THE DRUG IS WEARING OFF .....

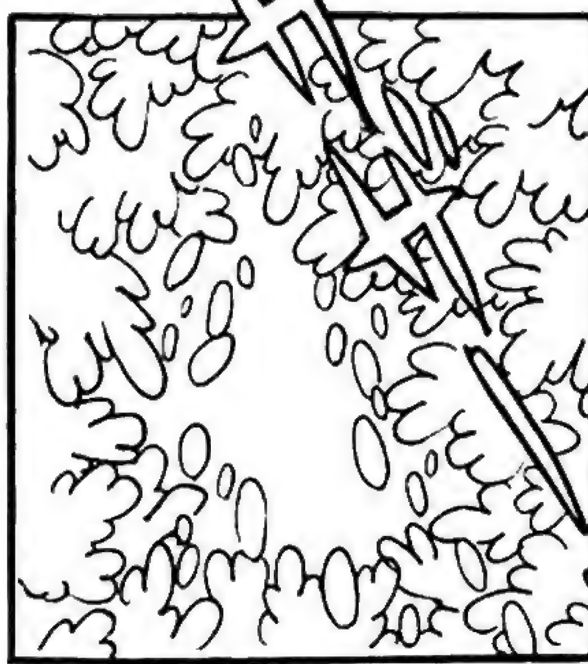


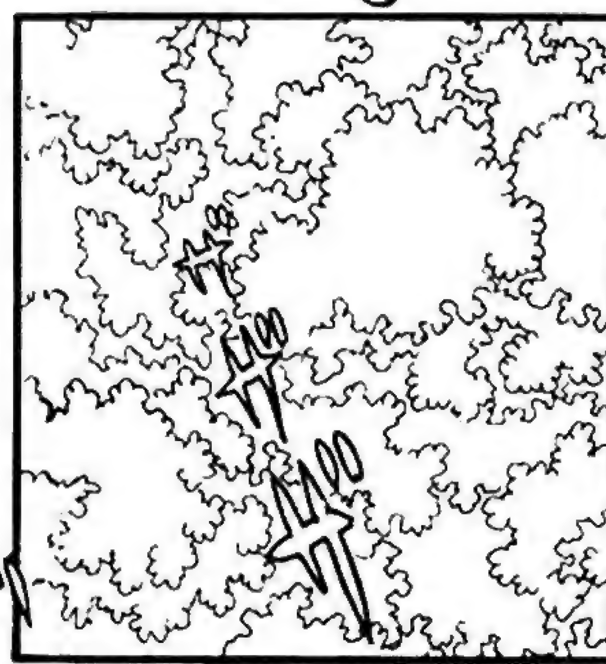

OH WELL, I'LL JUST HAVE TO JUMP OFF HERE


I CAN'T LET GO OF THE PLANES, SO I CAN'T GRAB THE PEN


THANKS GUYS!
BYE!



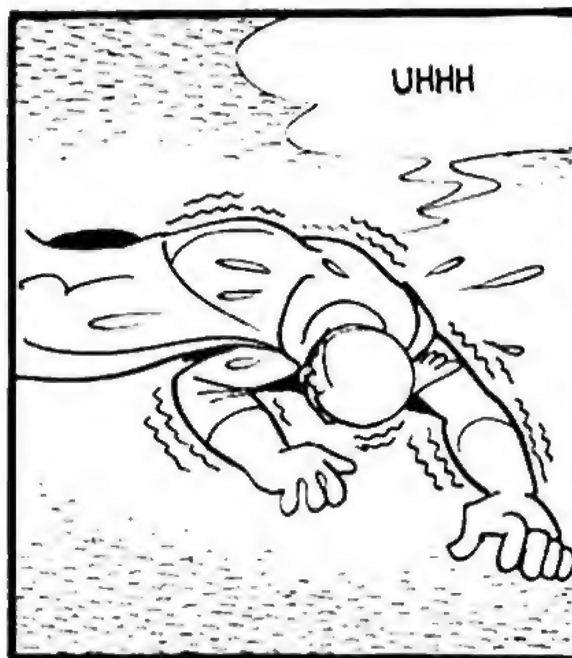




HEHEHEH

THEY WON'T TRY TO BOMB ME HERE, SINCE WE'RE SO CLOSE TO NEW YORK CITY

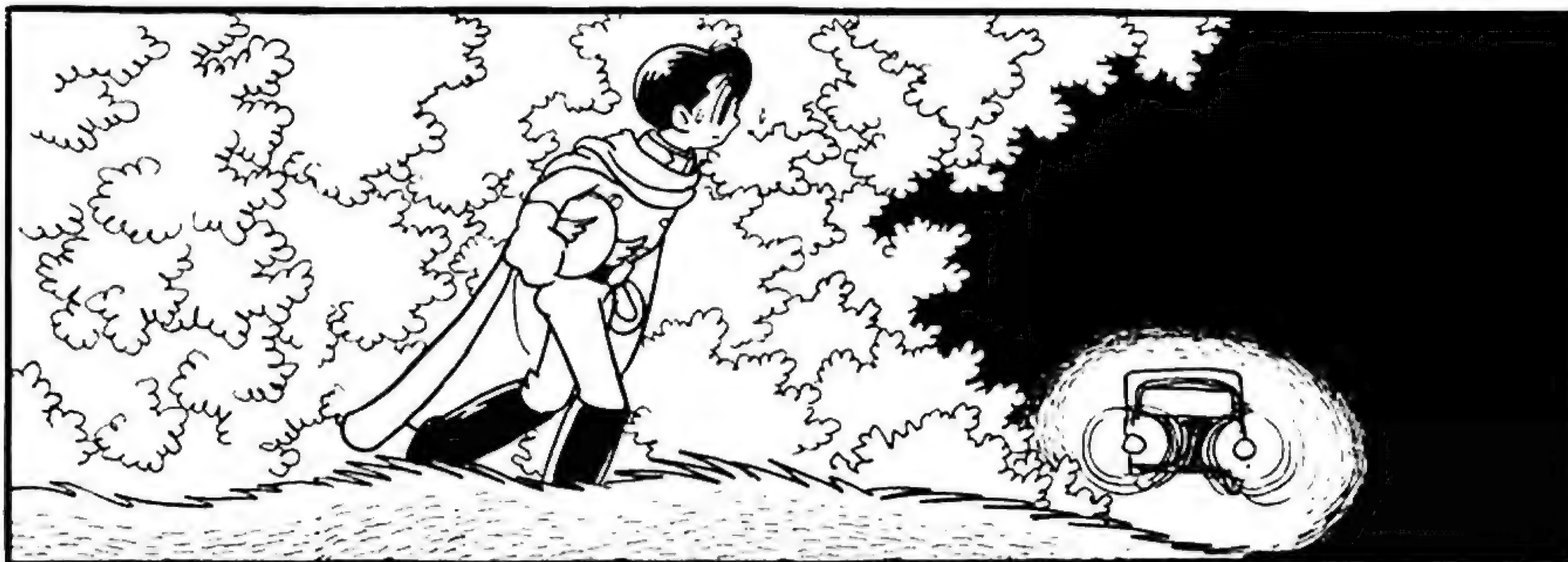


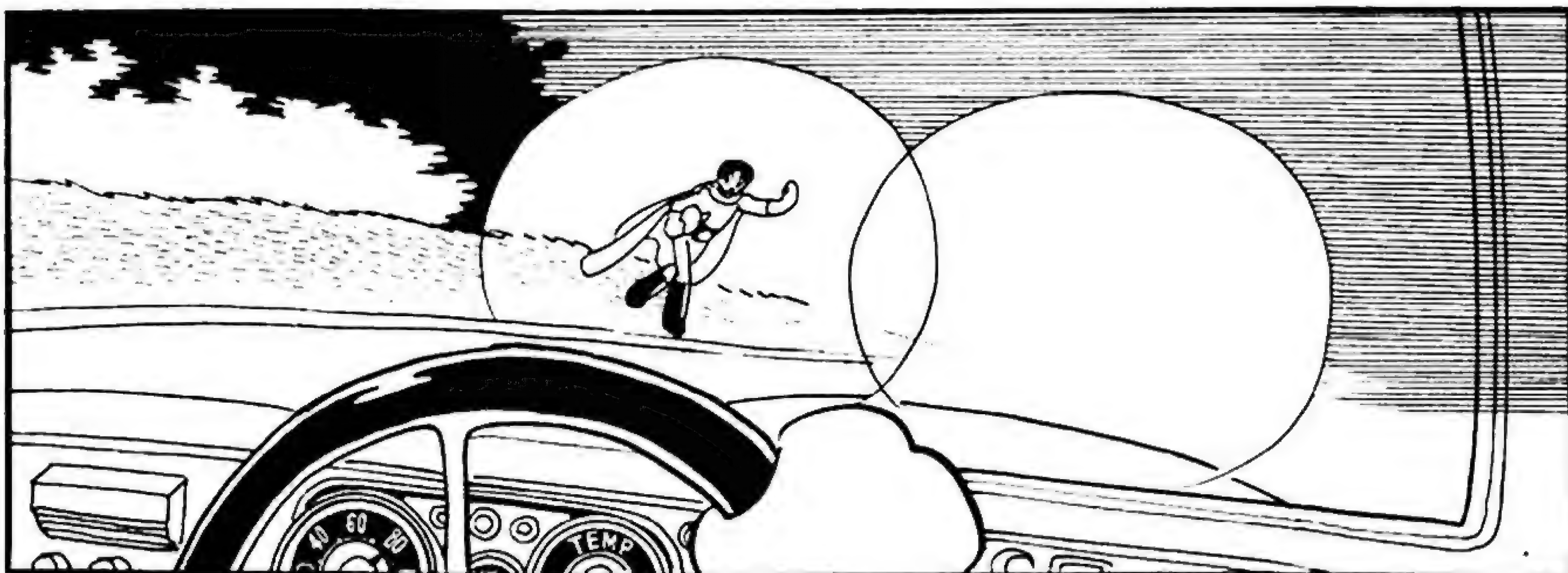


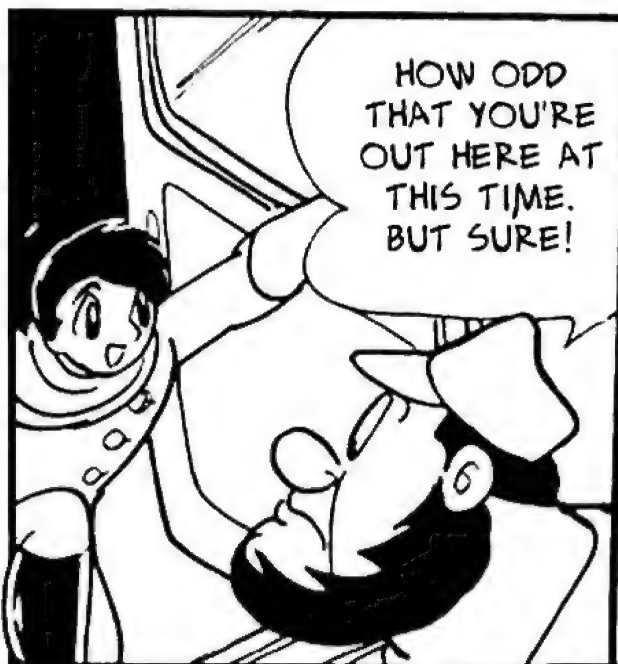


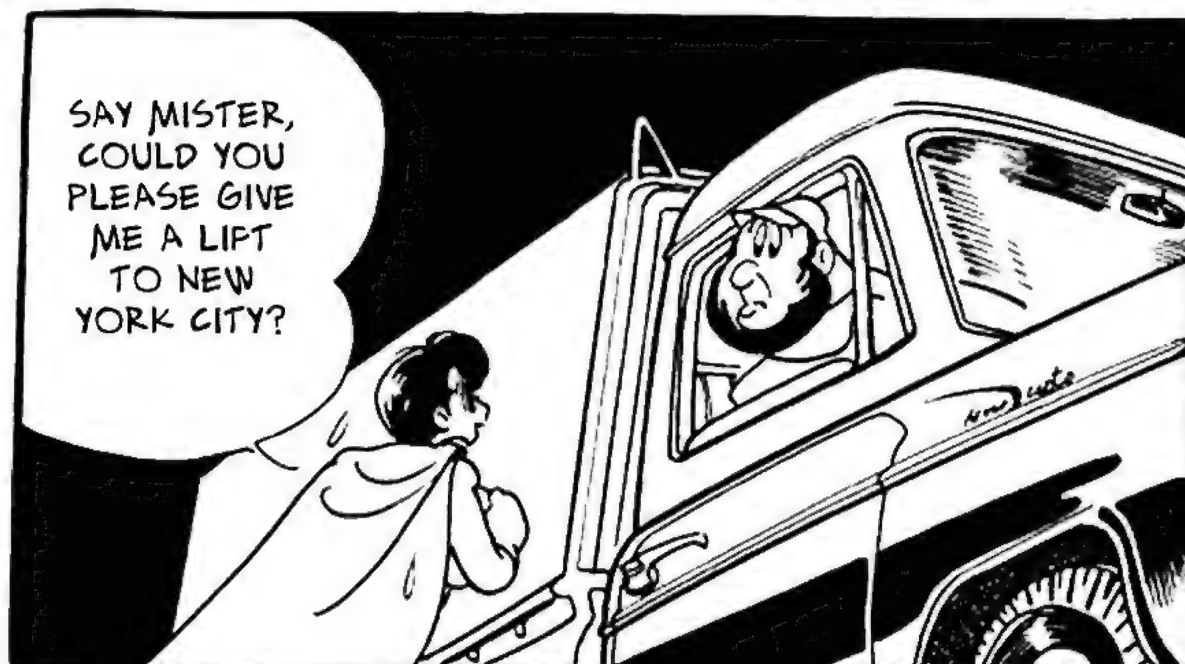




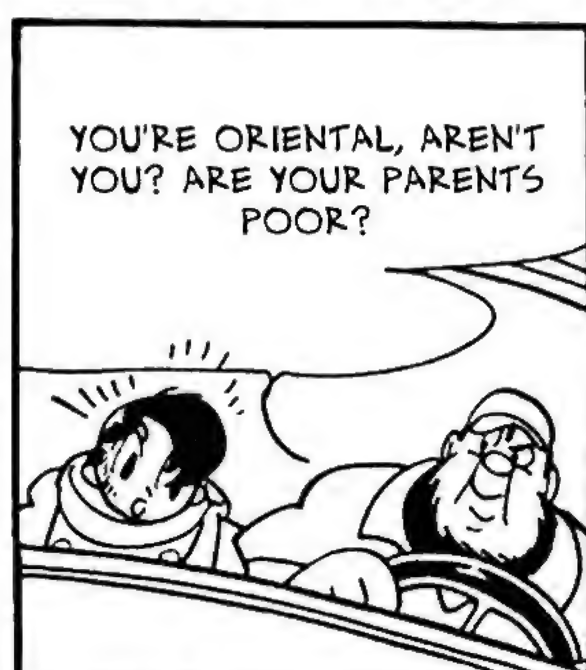


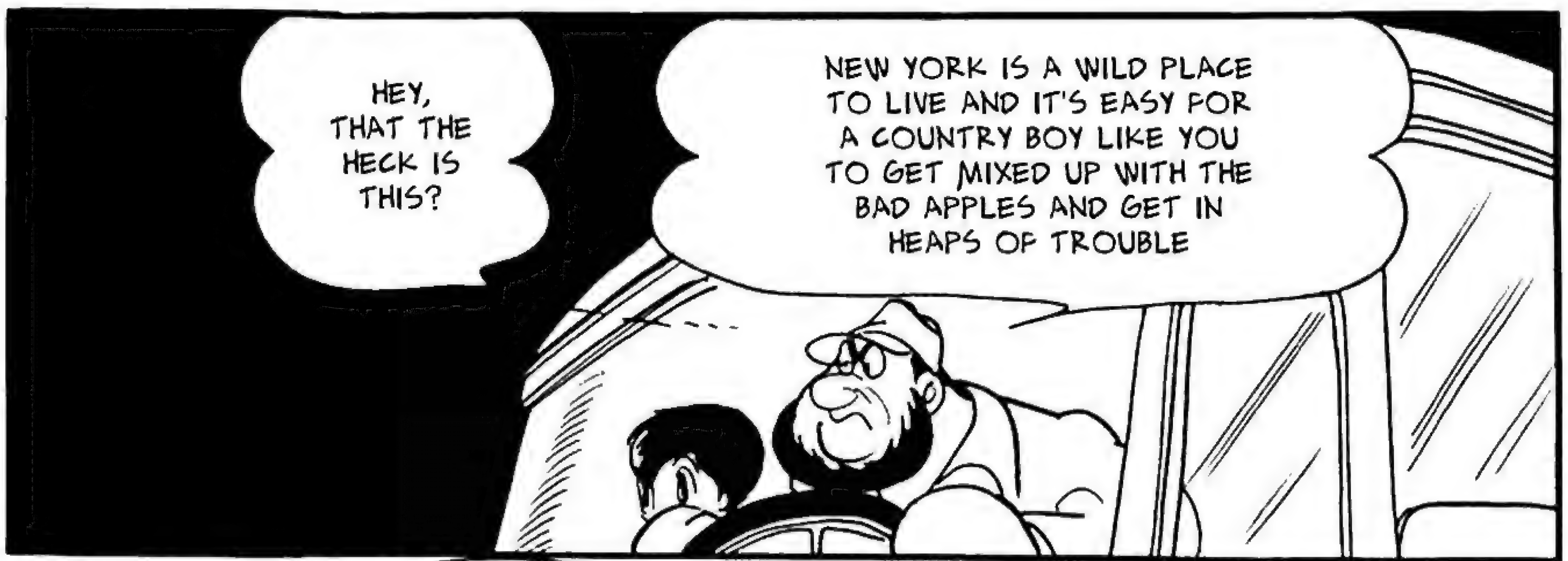



HOW ODD THAT YOU'RE OUT HERE AT THIS TIME. BUT SURE!

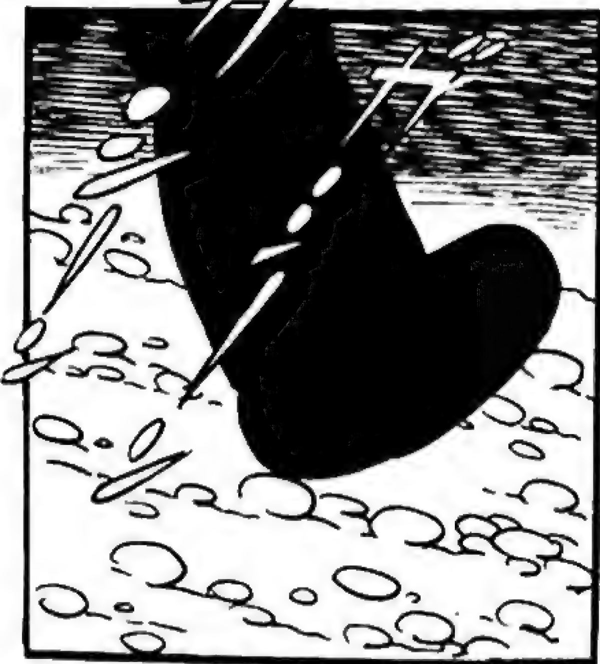

SAY MISTER, COULD YOU PLEASE GIVE ME A LIFT TO NEW YORK CITY?

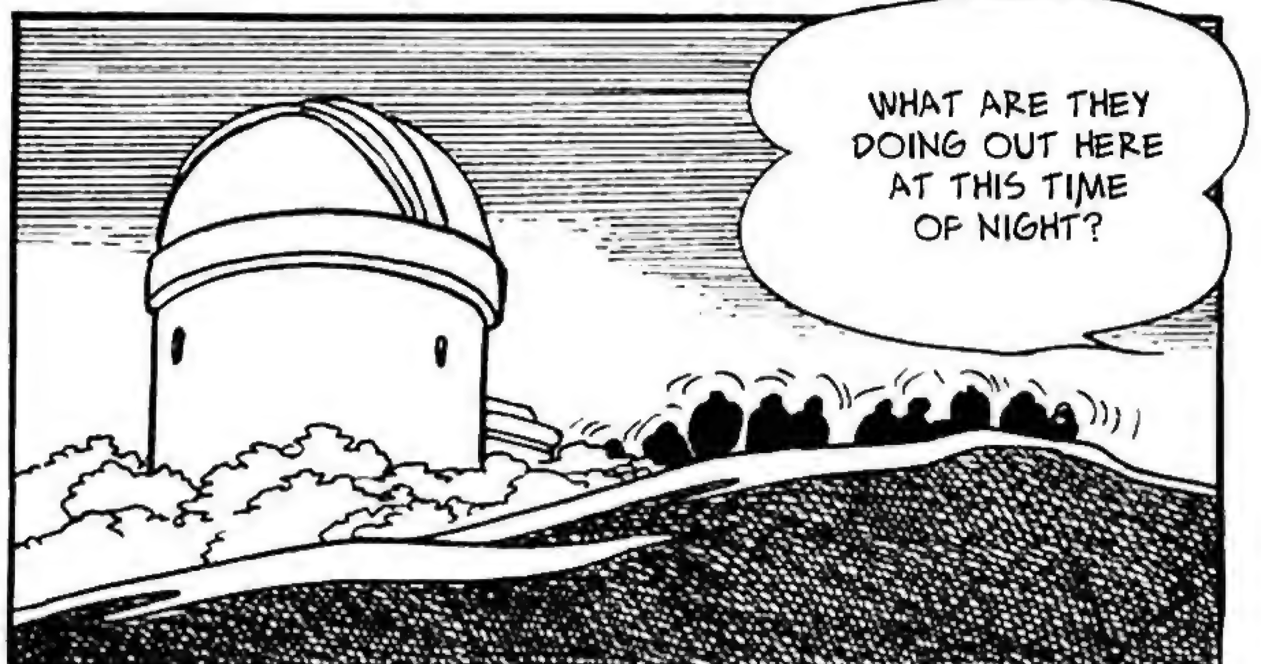

I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT I RAN AWAY FROM HOME, THINKING I COULD GET BY IN NEW YORK
BOY WAS I FOOLIN' MYSELF!

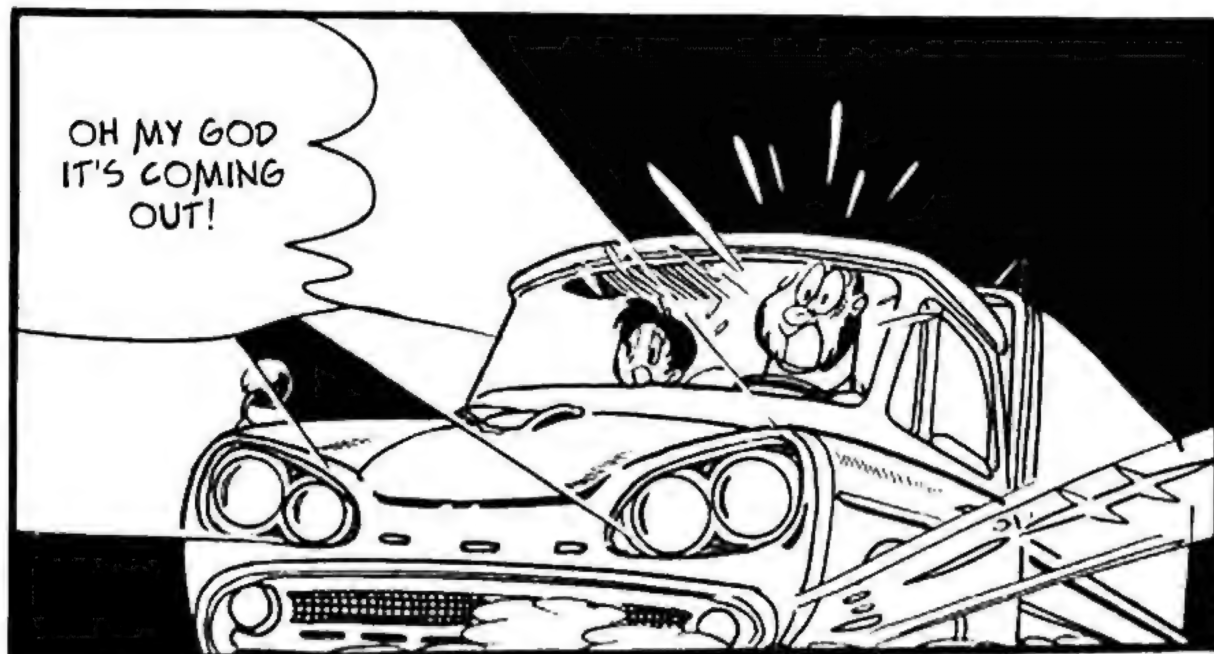

YOU'RE ORIENTAL, AREN'T YOU? ARE YOUR PARENTS POOR?

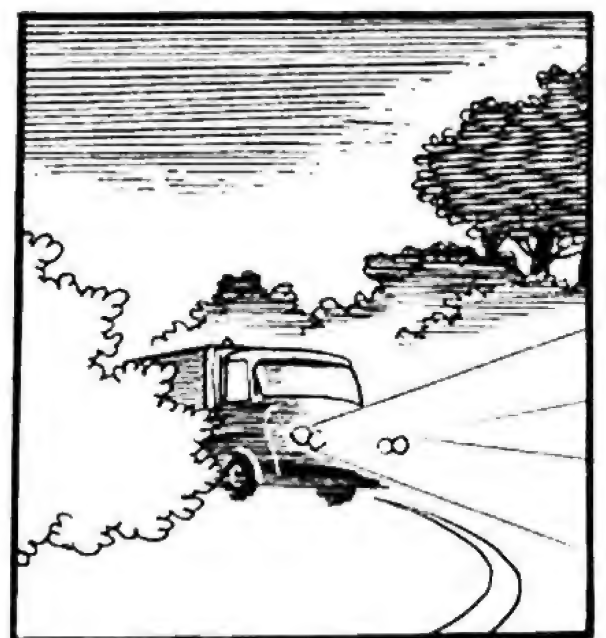

HEY, THAT THE HECK IS THIS?
NEW YORK IS A WILD PLACE TO LIVE AND IT'S EASY FOR A COUNTRY BOY LIKE YOU TO GET MIXED UP WITH THE BAD APPLES AND GET IN HEAPS OF TROUBLE


IT LOOKS LIKE AN OBSERVATORY
YEAH I KNOW, BUT THERE'S SOMETHING OUT THERE

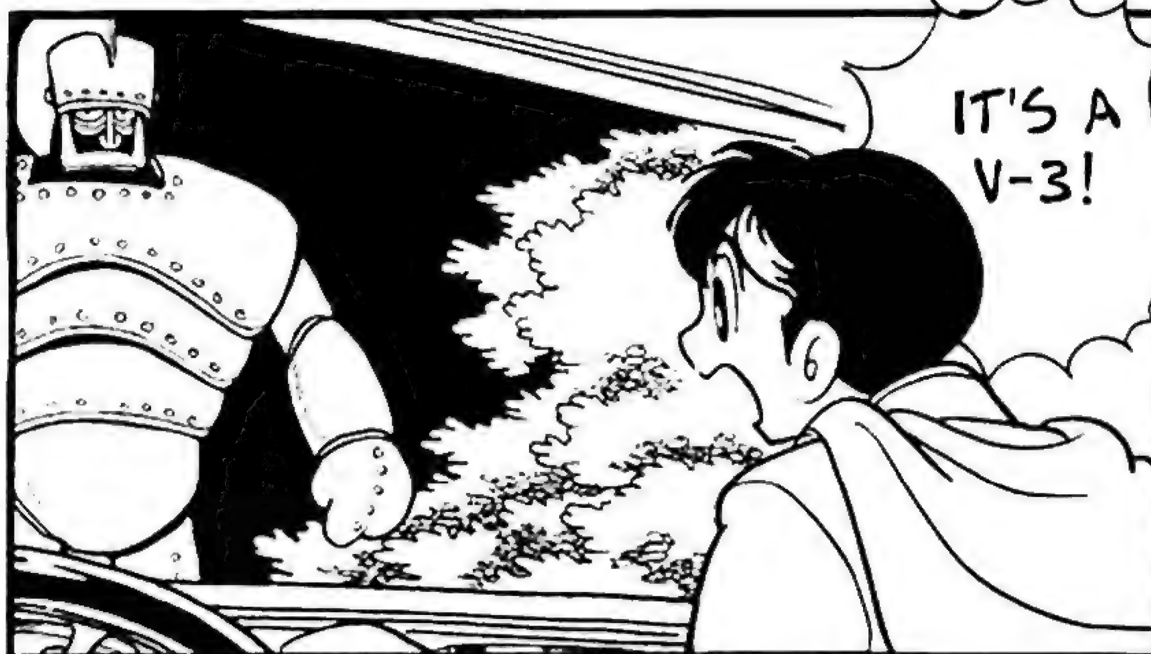



WHAT ARE THEY DOING OUT HERE AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT?


OH MY GOD IT'S COMING OUT!




EEK!
HELP!
THERE'S A MONSTER ALIEN OUT THERE!


IT'S A V-3!

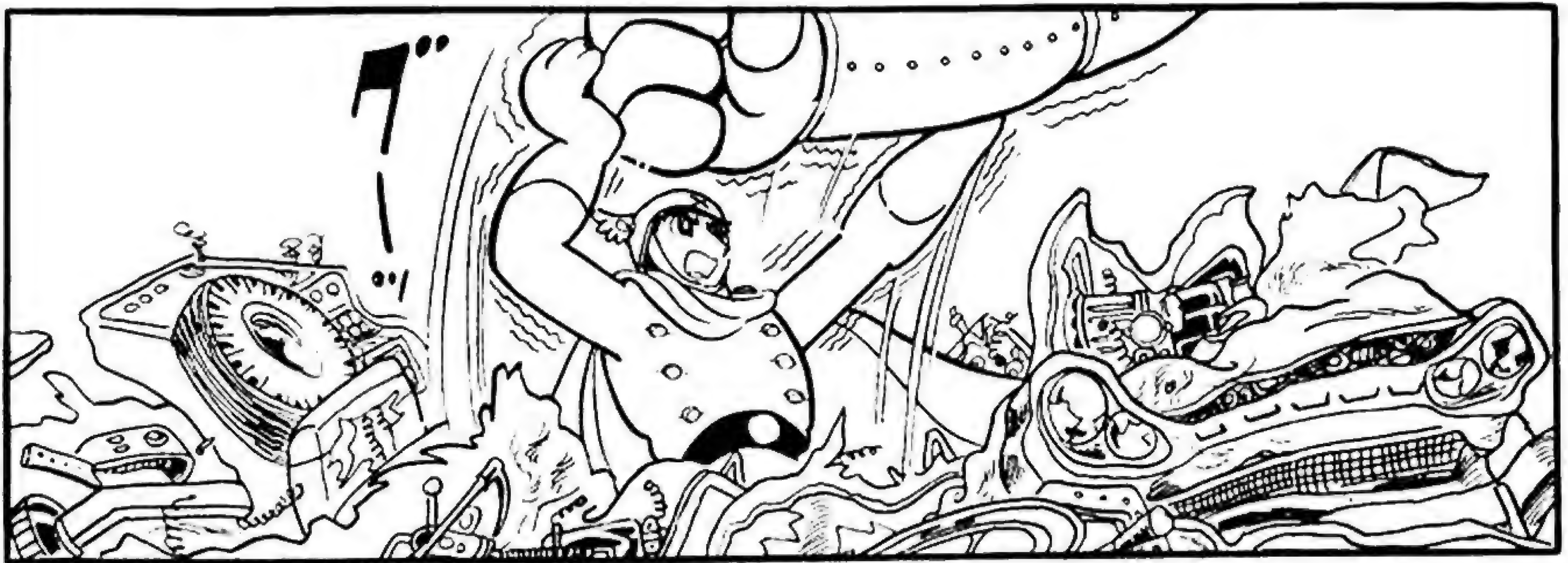

RUN, KID! GET OUTTA HERE!

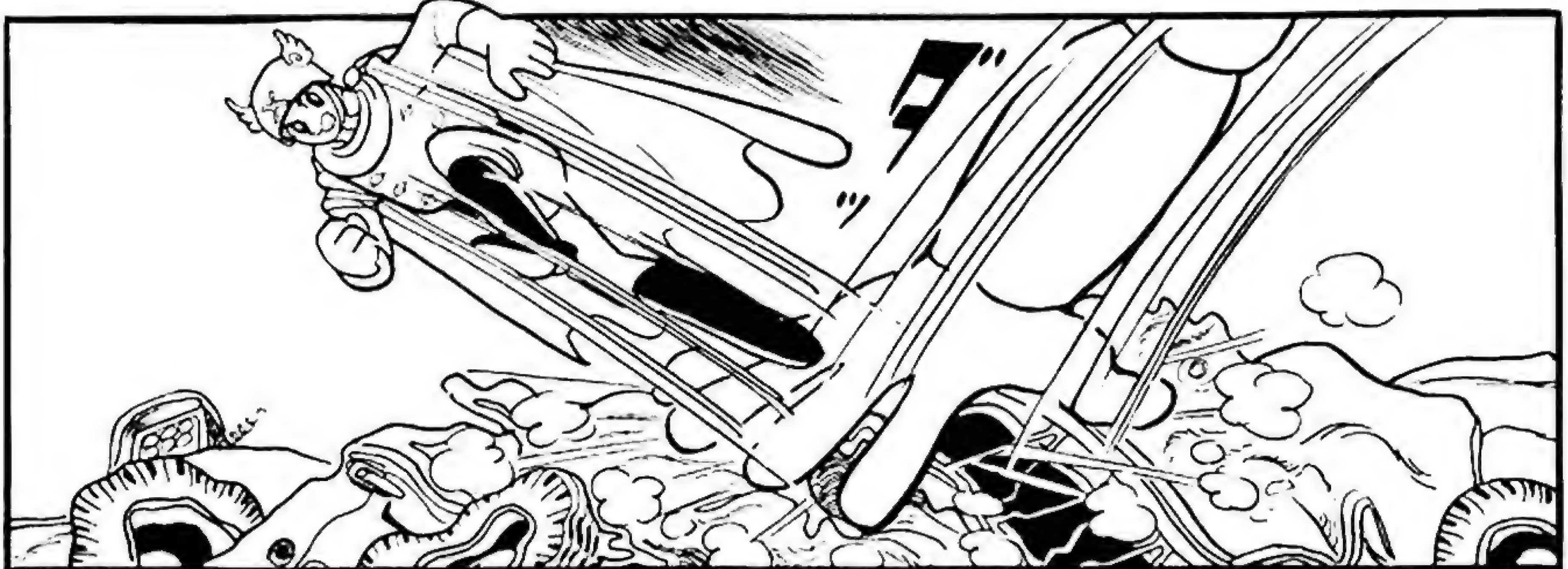


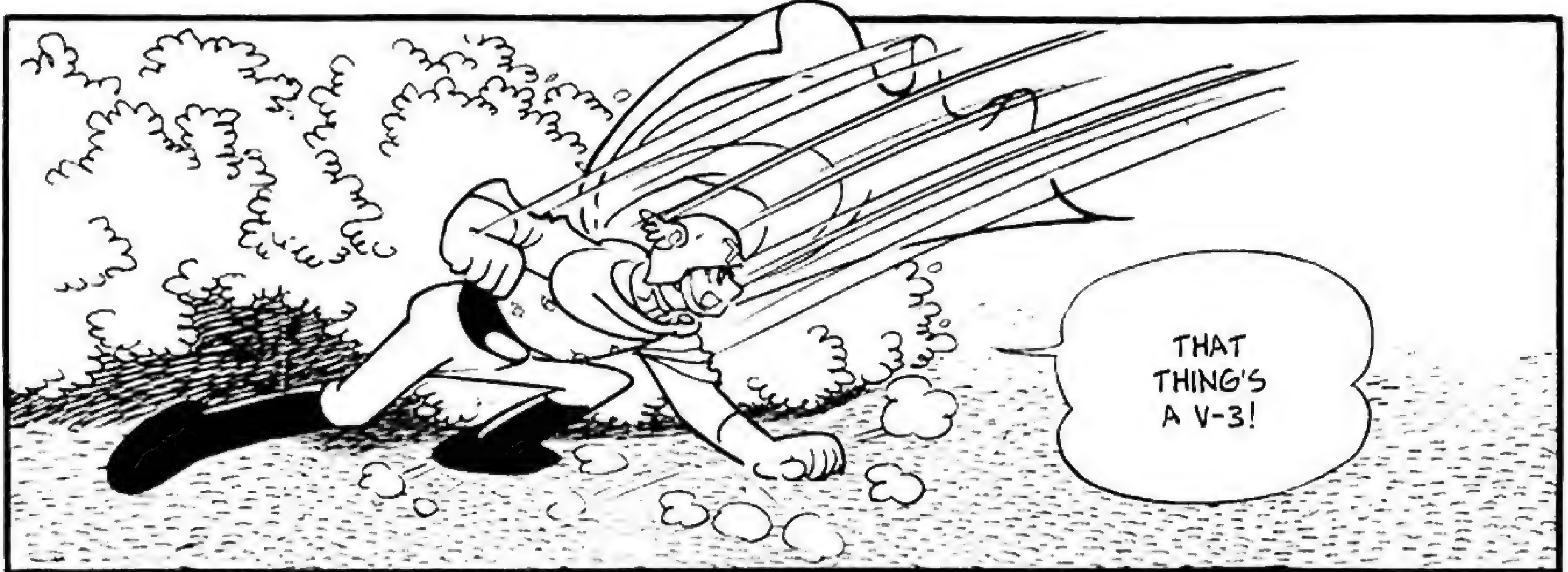


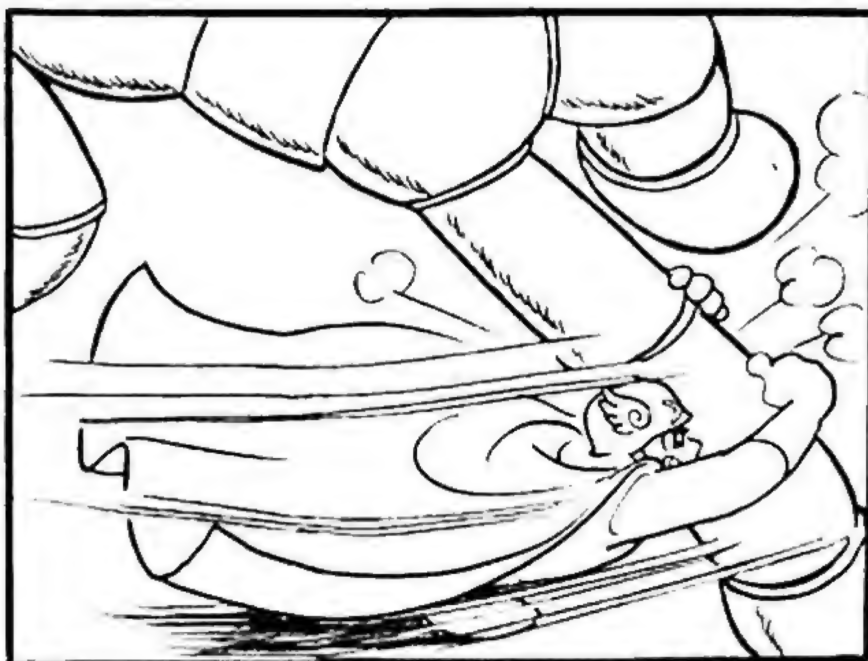
ガシャーン!

フギャーッ!!


ゴーッ


ゴッ


THAT THING'S A V-3!





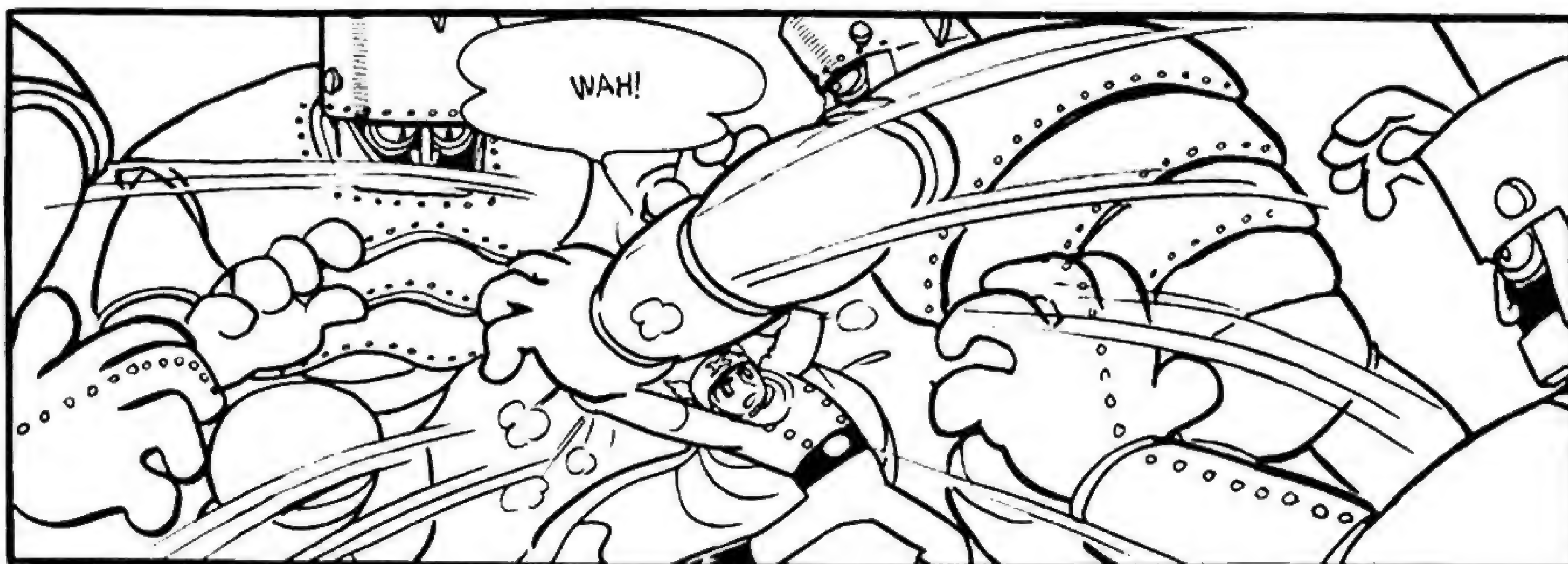
EEEHHAA

ガス！

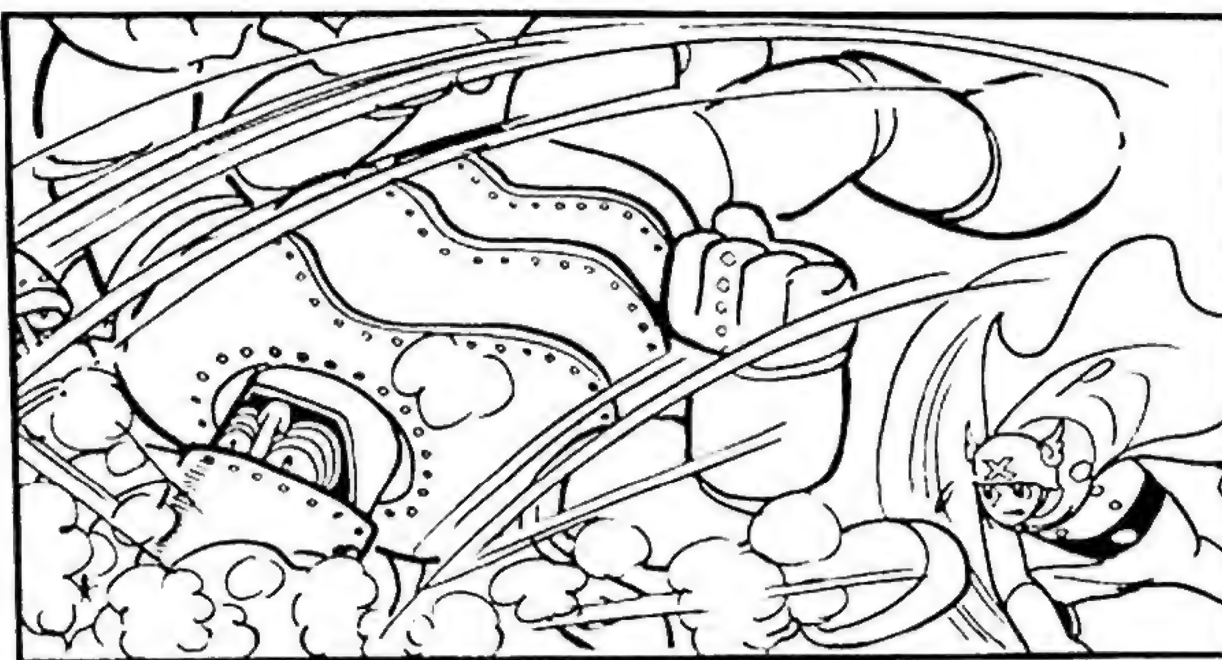


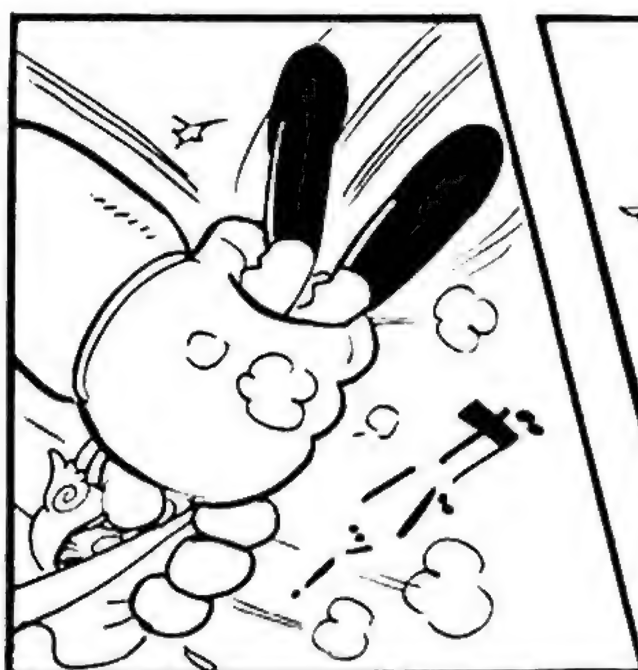
WOAH! THEY'RE EVERYWHERE!

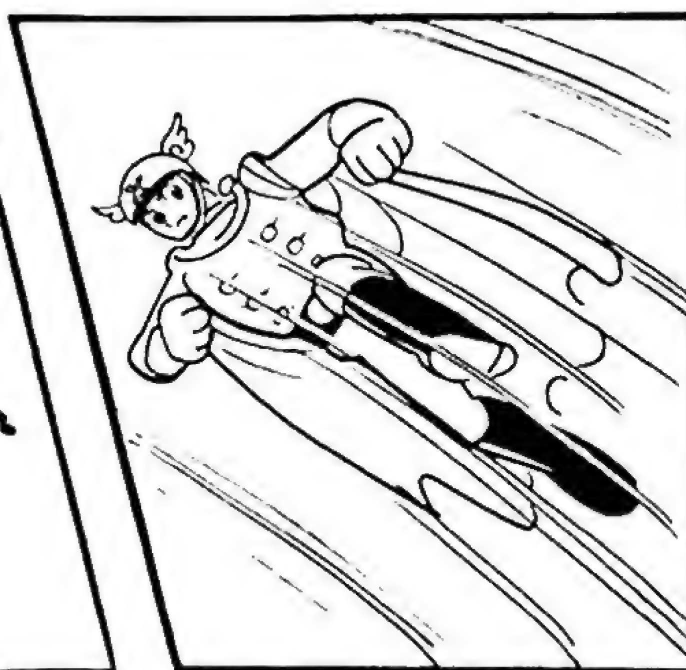
YOU ROBOTS ARE RELICS OF THE NAZI ALLIANCE.. AND YOU'RE HERE ON THE SIDE OF THE CROSS PARTY?!?





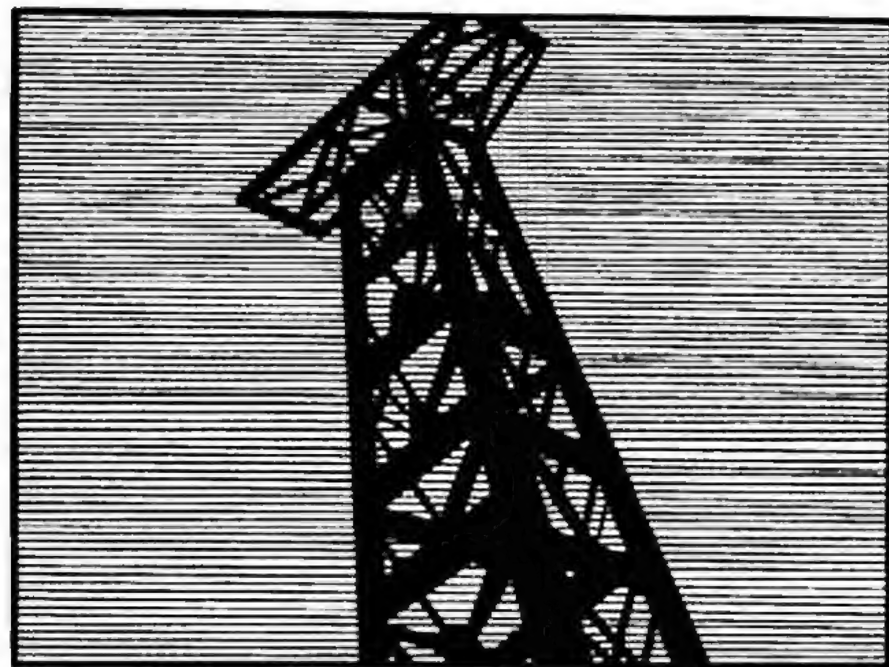


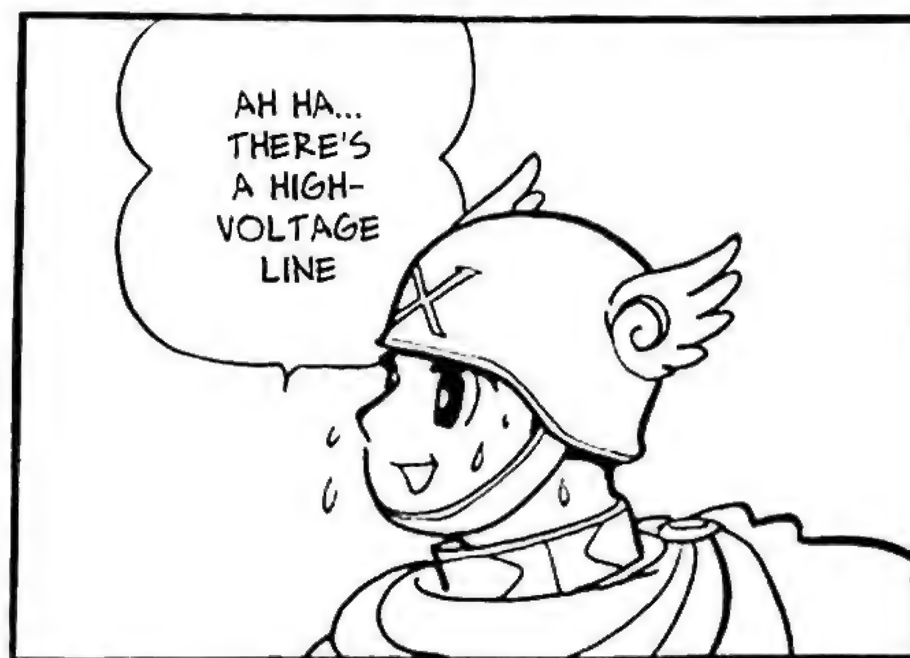





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THIS IS JUST ENDLESS!
IF I KEEP THIS UP I'LL RUN OUT OF THE DRUG AGAIN




AH HA... THERE'S A HIGH-VOLTAGE LINE







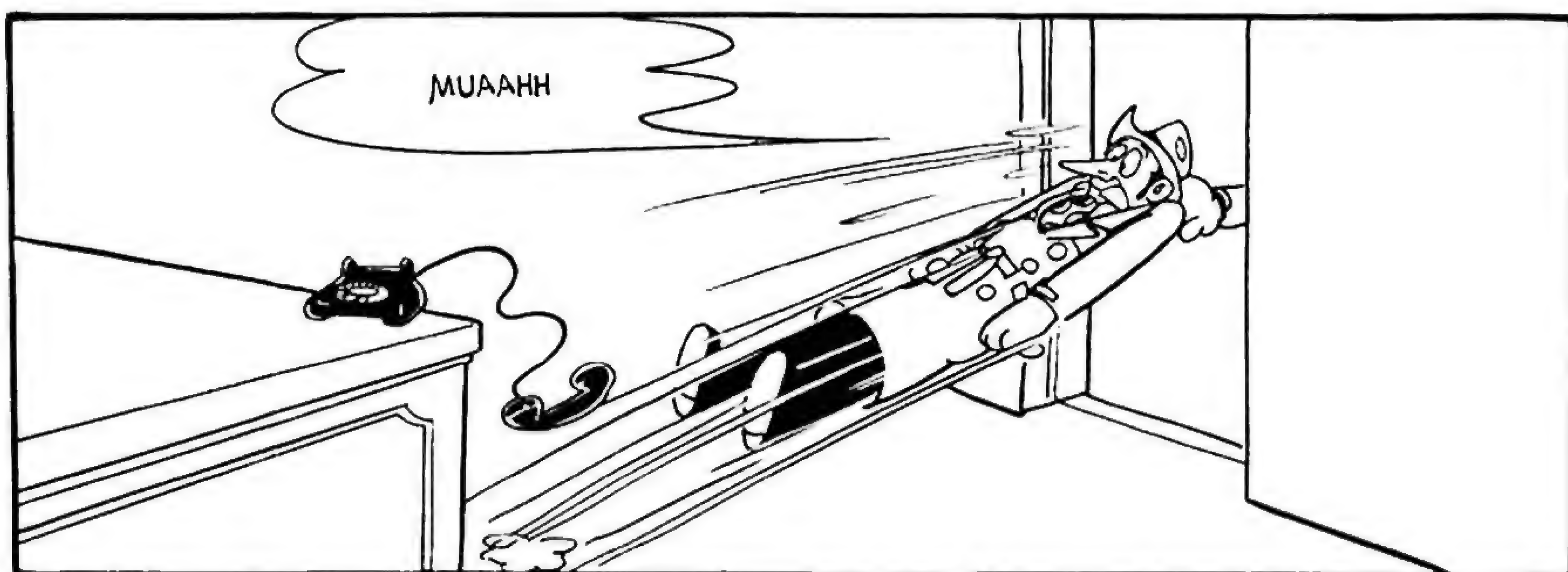




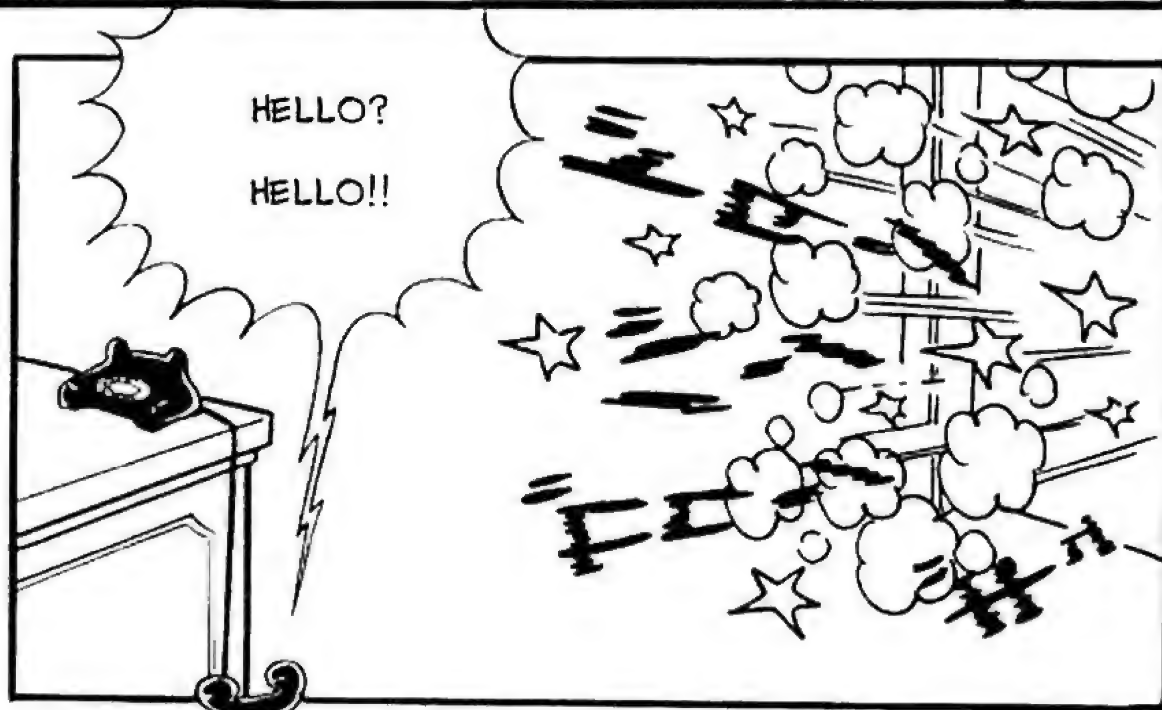

HELLO!!
NEW YORK H.Q.!
I NEED TO SPEAK
WITH THE CHIEF!

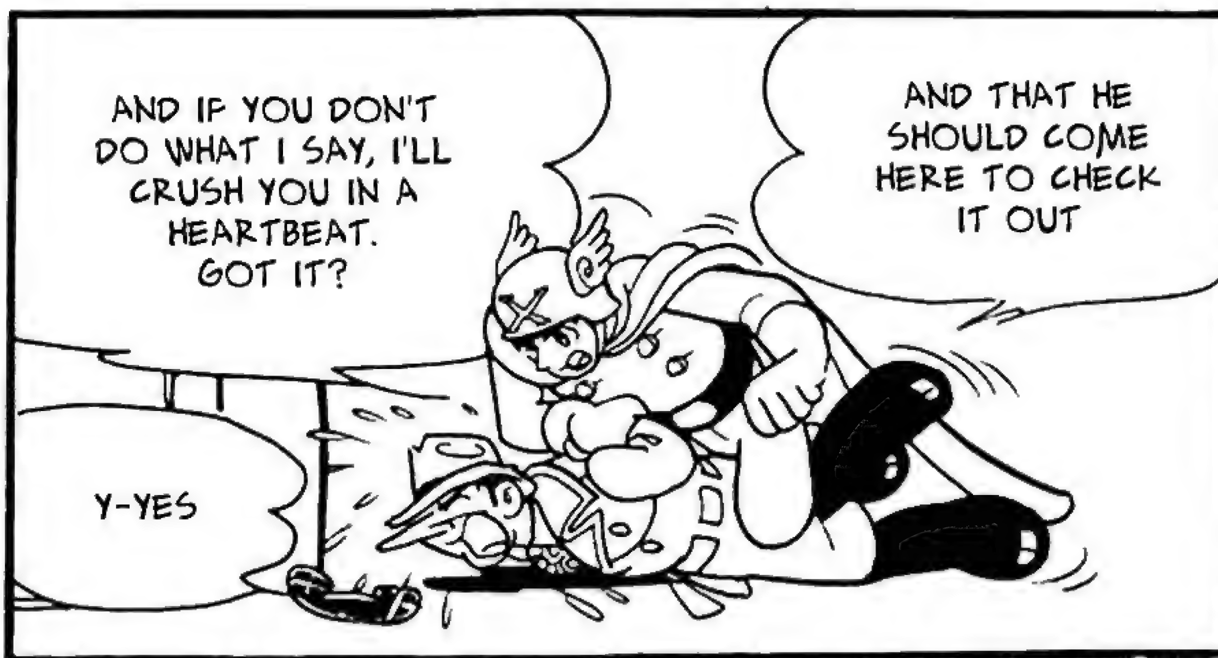



EEK!


MUAAHH

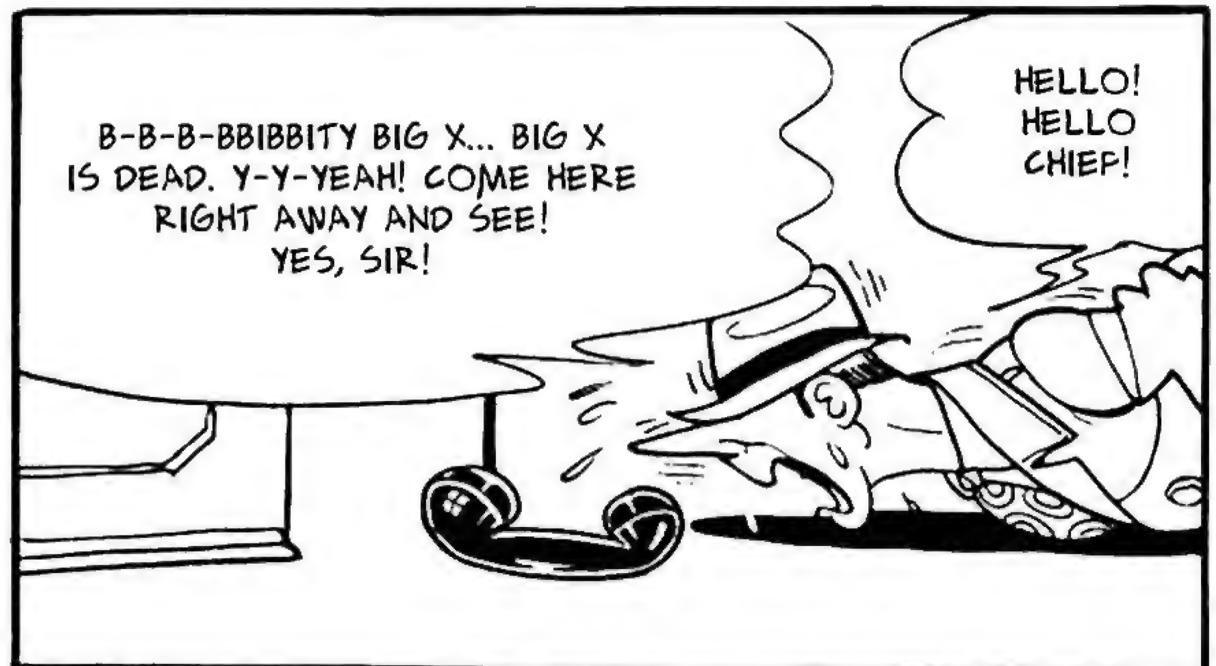

YOUR CHIEF
IS ON THE
PHONE. WHY
DON'T YOU
ANSWER IT?

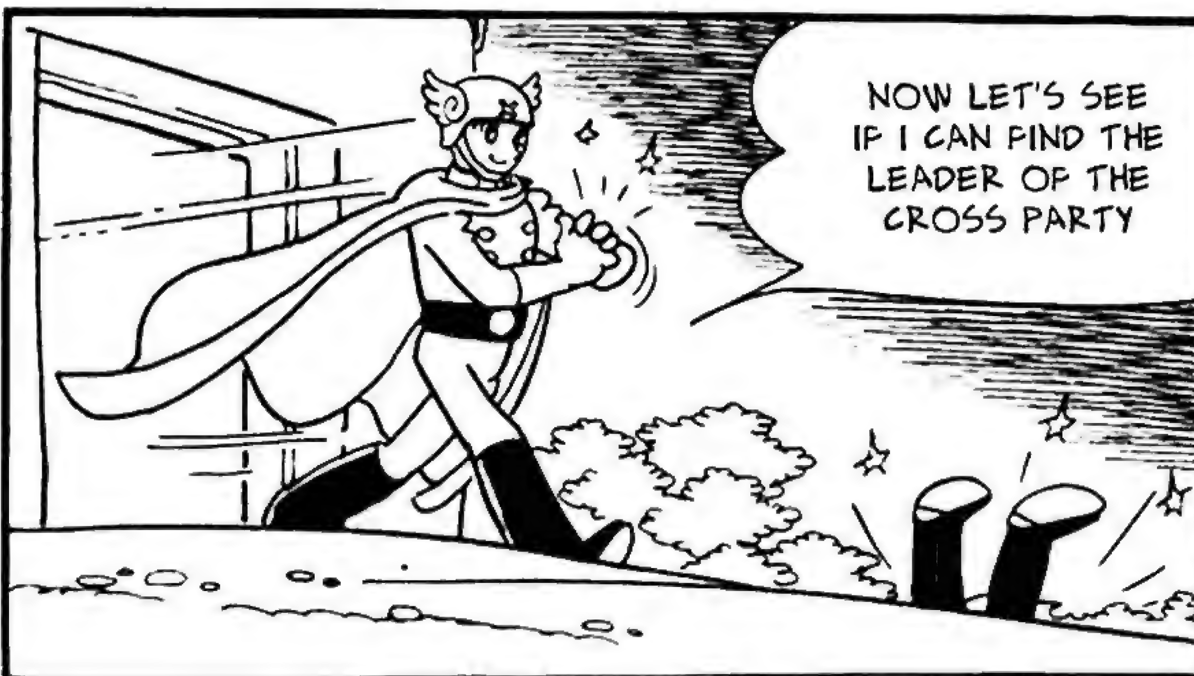

HELLO?
HELLO!!


AND THAT HE SHOULD COME HERE TO CHECK IT OUT
AND IF YOU DON'T DO WHAT I SAY, I'LL CRUSH YOU IN A HEARTBEAT. GOT IT?
Y-YES


HOW-EVER
TELL THE CHIEF THAT YOU WERE ABLE TO DEFEAT BIG X


OKAY, VERY WELL DONE!


HELLO! HELLO CHIEF!
B-B-B-BBIBBITY BIG X... BIG X IS DEAD. Y-Y-YEAH! COME HERE RIGHT AWAY AND SEE! YES, SIR!

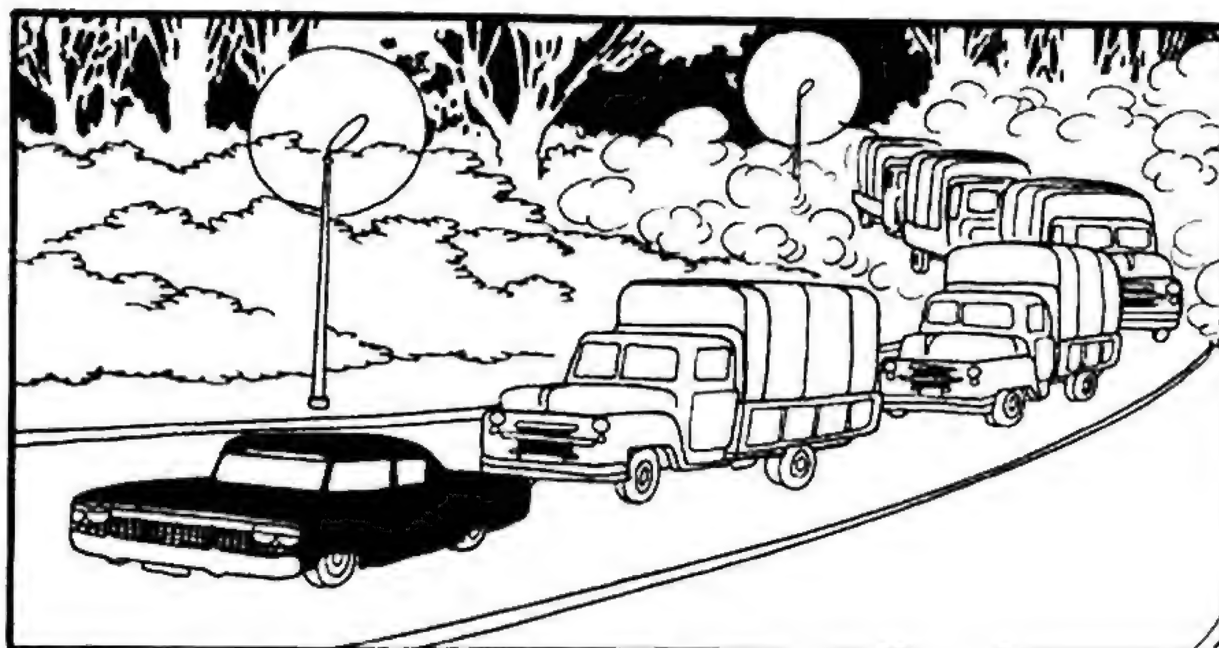

NOW LET'S SEE IF I CAN FIND THE LEADER OF THE CROSS PARTY


GAAAAHHH





I'LL BE WAITING HERE FOR YOU





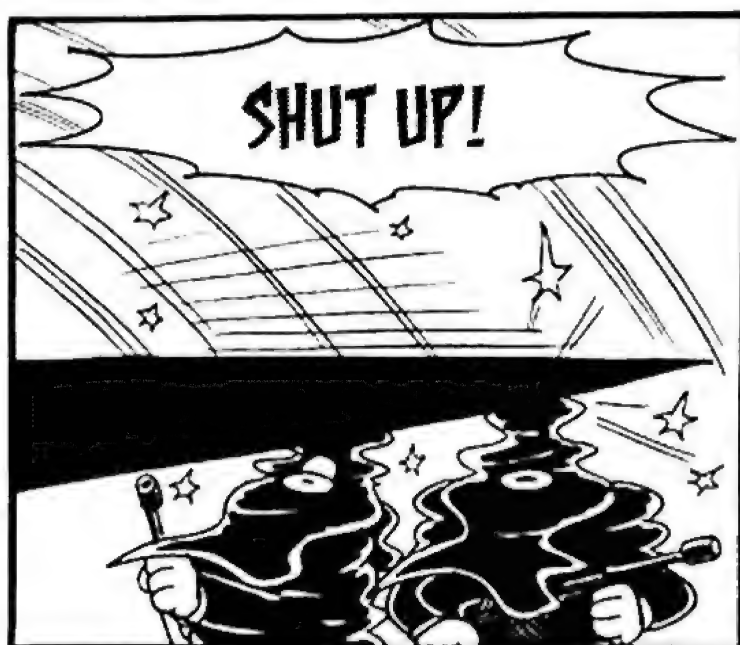





IT WASN'T BIG X THAT WAS KILLED. IT WAS ALL OF THESE V-3S! WHO SAID IT WAS BIG X??


HOLY CRAP! WHAT THE HELL IS THIS? A BUNCH OF V-3S?


THAT'S WEIRD! HE SHOULD BE DEAD!
T-THE PHONE REPORT SAID THAT IT WAS BIG X


SHUT UP!


W-W-WHAT THE HELL?




I'M SERIOUSLY PISSED OFF!
NOW....


HEH HEH HEH THANKS FOR ANSWERING MY PHONE CALL!


Y-Y-YOU! YOU'RE BIG X!

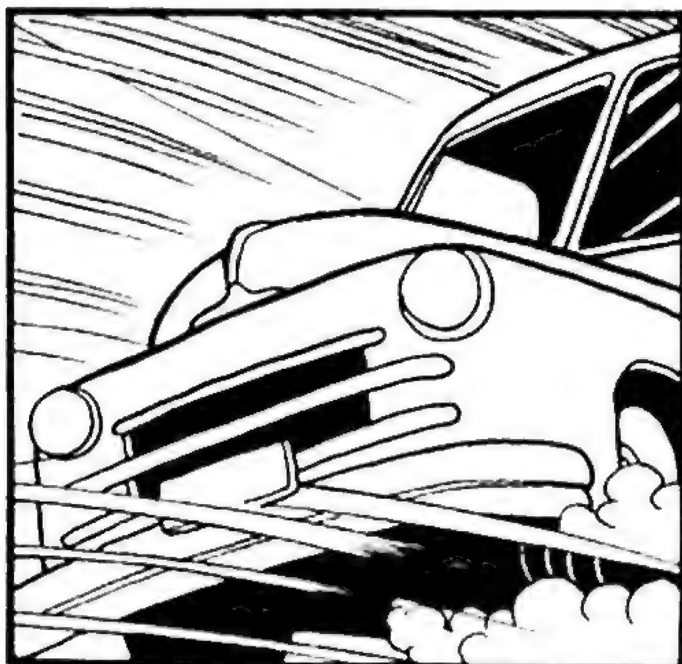

ALL RIGHT, I'LL MAKE YOU UNDERSTAND

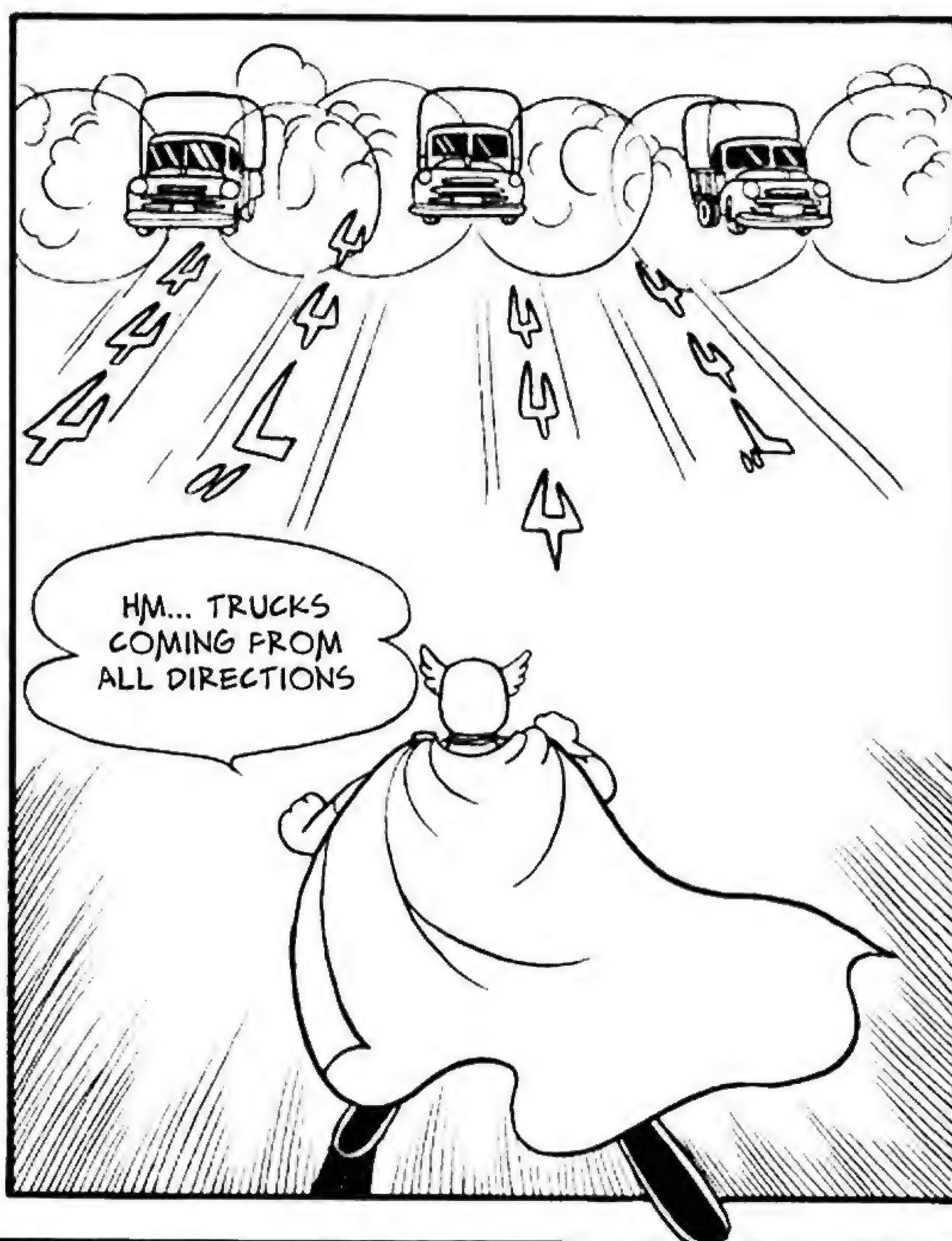

I'VE HAD A CHANCE TO LOOK INTO ALL OF YOUR SCHEMES. BUT IT'S NOT GOING TO HAPPEN THE WAY YOU WANT IT TO. YOU'RE ALL DOOMED.

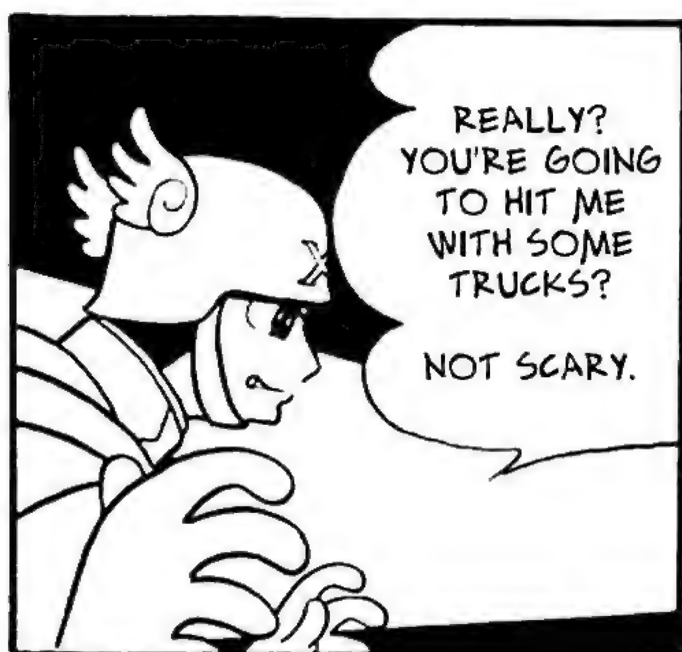

OH SHIT! SHOOT EM!


TURN ON THE HEADLIGHTS

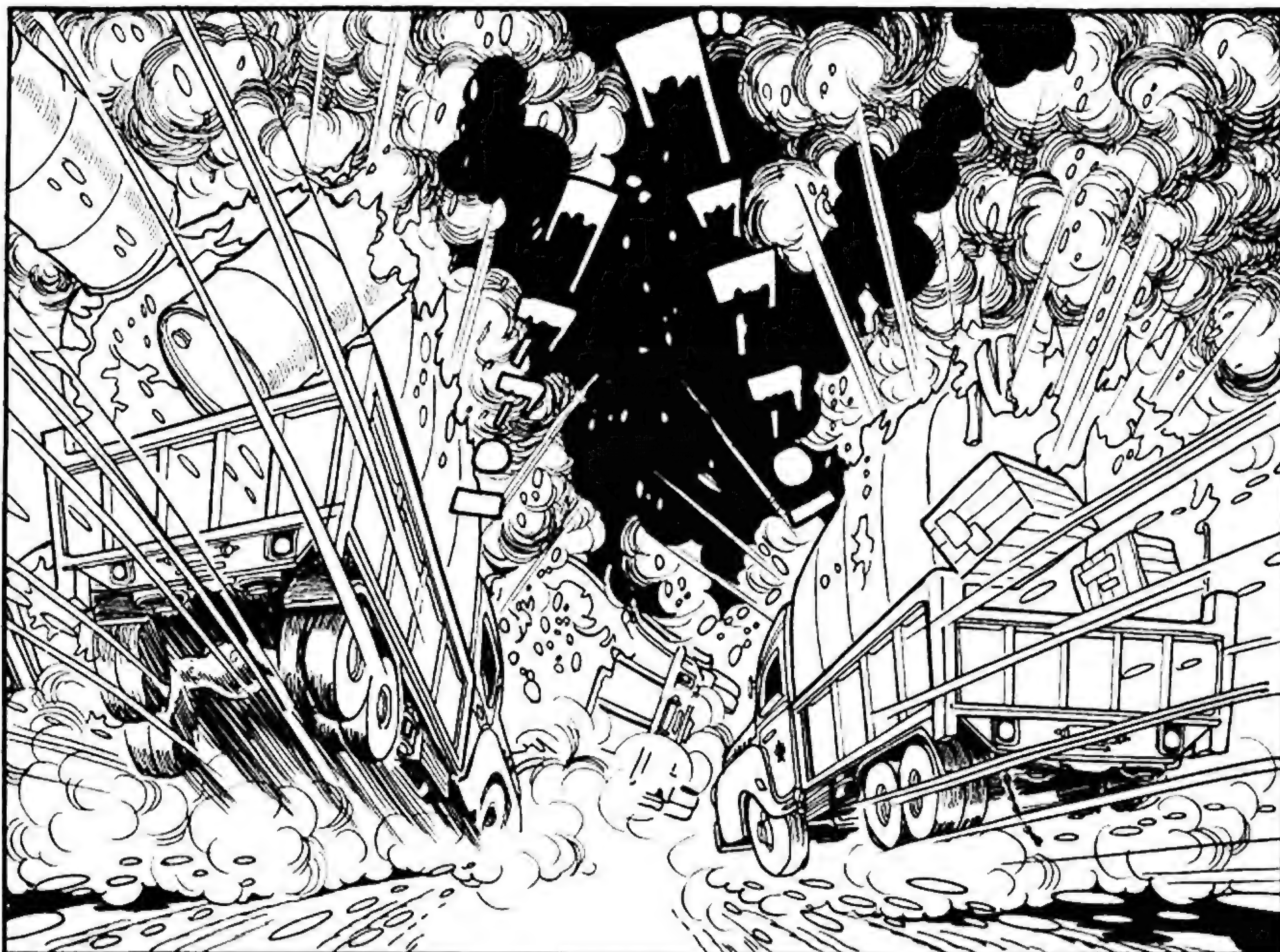

COME ON!

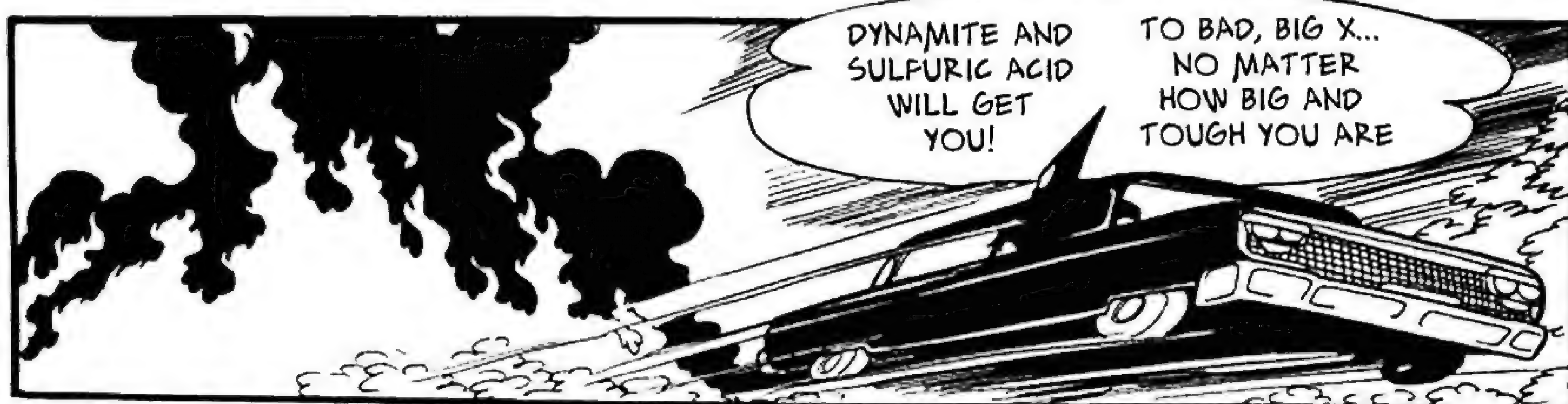


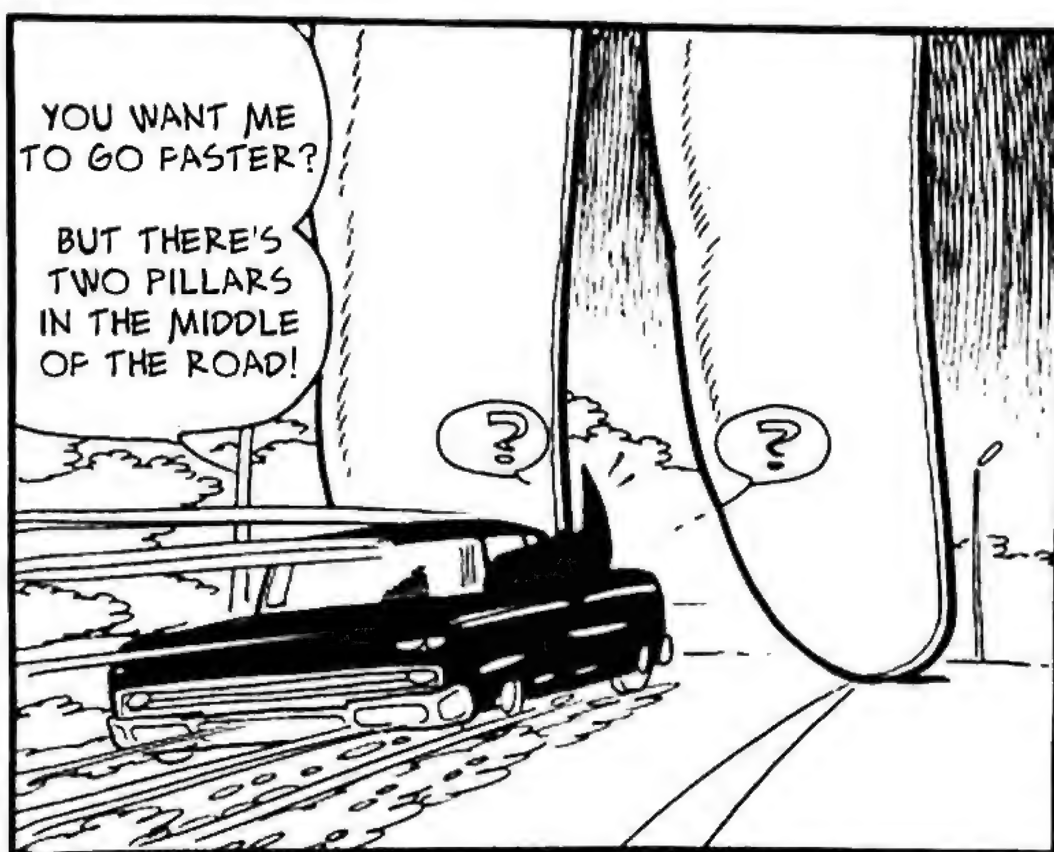

HM... TRUCKS COMING FROM ALL DIRECTIONS


REALLY? YOU'RE GOING TO HIT ME WITH SOME TRUCKS?
NOT SCARY.

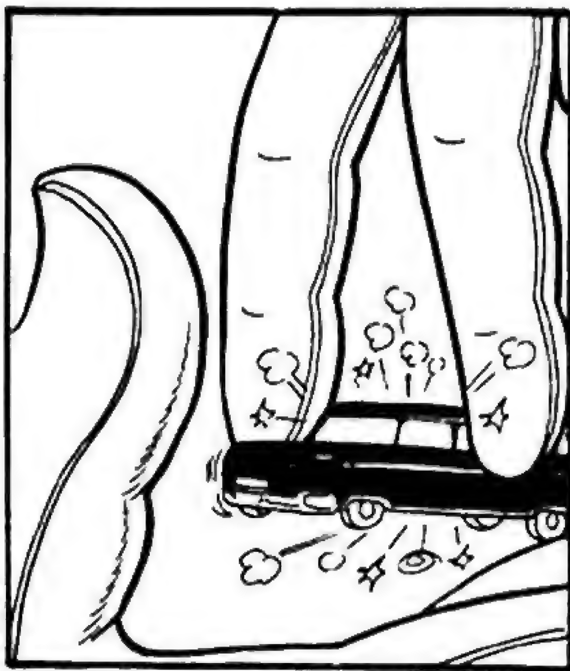

AHH HAHA HA! IF YOU THINK THEY ARE SIMPLY TRUCKS, THEN YOU ARE MISTAKEN. THEY ARE FILLED WITH DYNAMITE AND SULFURIC ACID!
YOW!




DYNAMITE AND SULFURIC ACID WILL GET YOU!
TO BAD, BIG X... NO MATTER HOW BIG AND TOUGH YOU ARE


YOU WANT ME TO GO FASTER?
BUT THERE'S TWO PILLARS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROAD!
?
?


MUAAA HA HA HA! STEP ON IT! WE'LL WATCH HIM BURN FROM AFAR

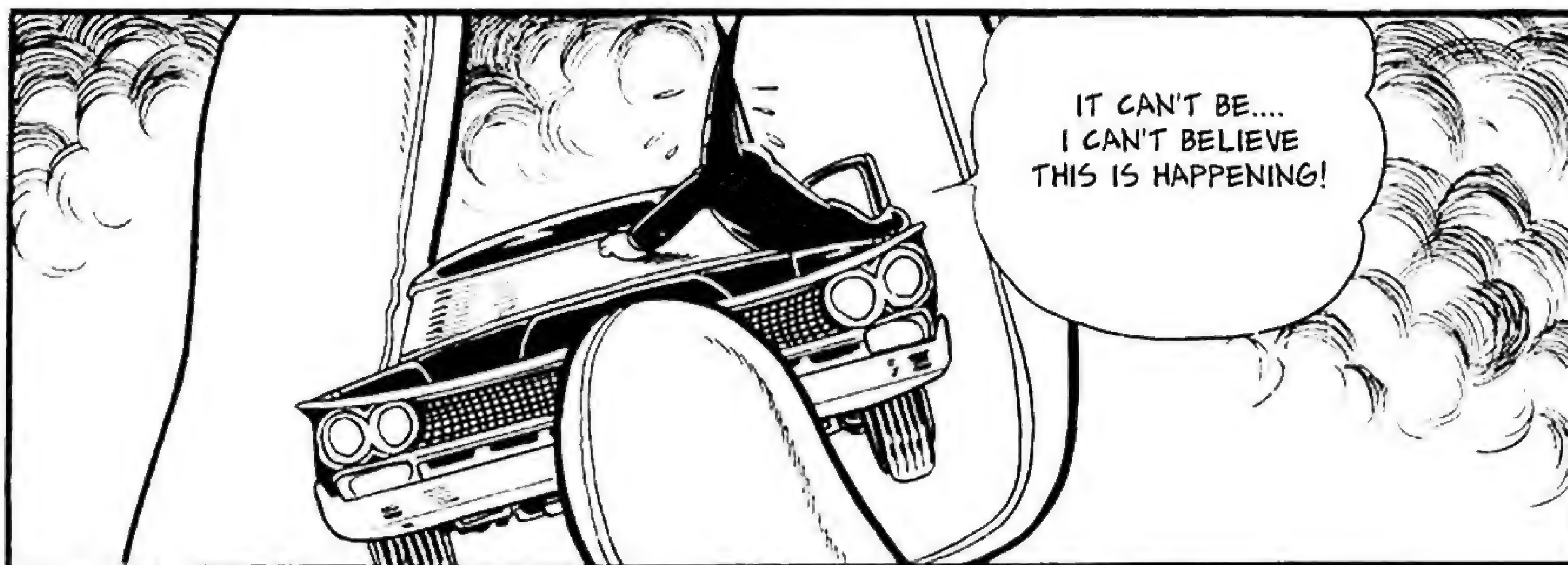




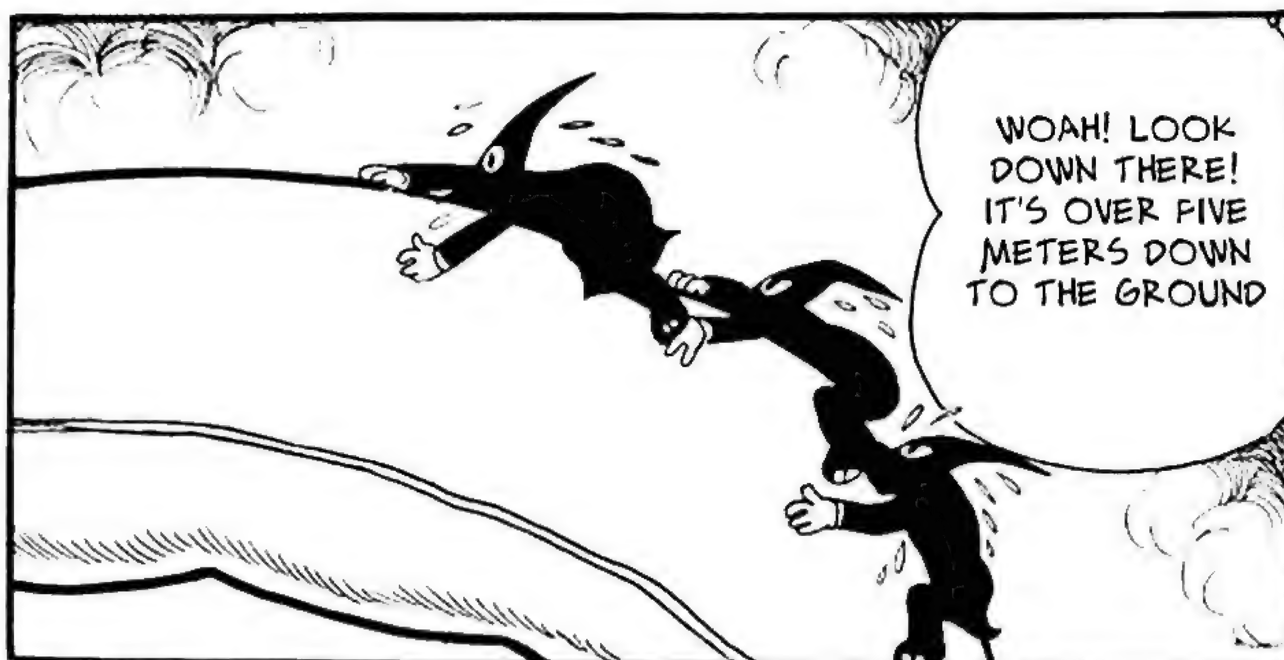


THERE'S A BIT OF FIRE GLOWING DOWN THERE JUST BELOW MY FEET

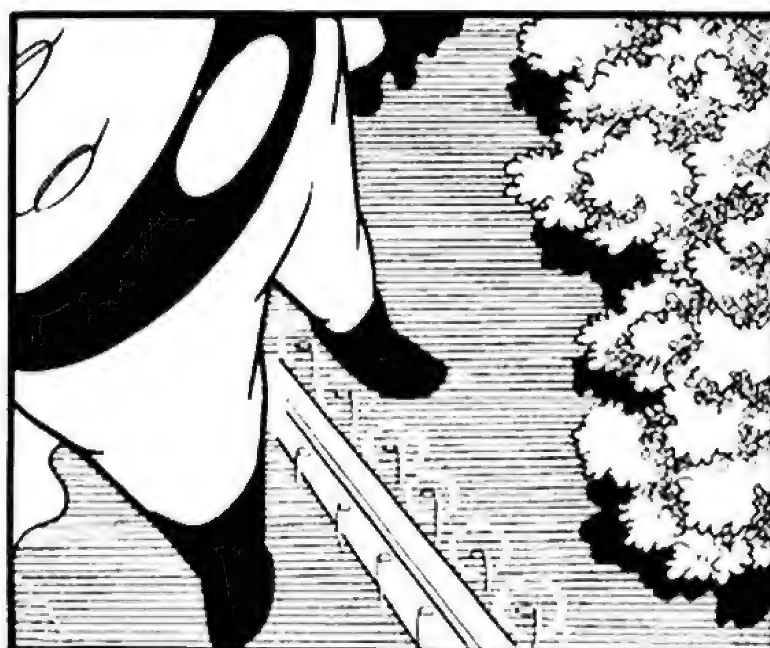
EEEK!


IT CAN'T BE....
I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS IS HAPPENING!

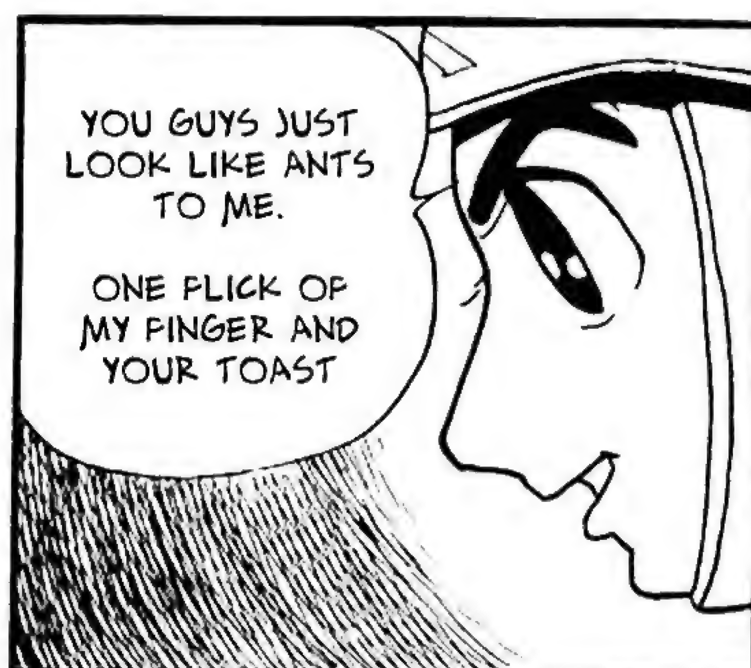

EEP


WOAH! LOOK DOWN THERE! IT'S OVER FIVE METERS DOWN TO THE GROUND


RIGHT NOW I'M OVER 100 METERS TALL

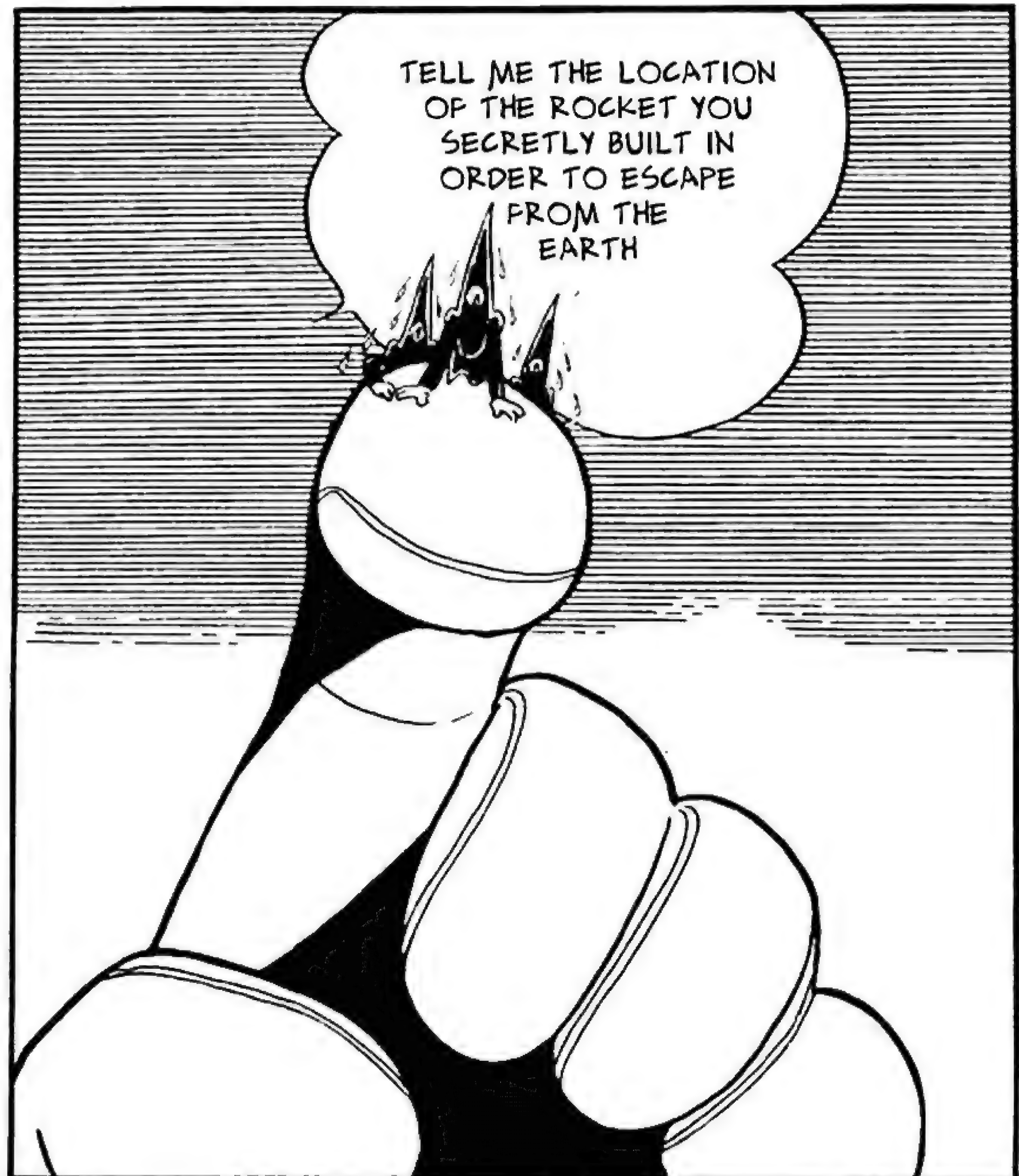



YOU'LL BE SHOT OUTTA HERE. BLOWN AWAY BY 300 METERS


YOU GUYS JUST LOOK LIKE ANTS TO ME.
ONE FLICK OF MY FINGER AND YOUR TOAST


OH... OH MY!!
HEP-HEP-HELP ME! I'LL D-D-DO ANYTHING!
GOOD! ALL RIGHT THEN....

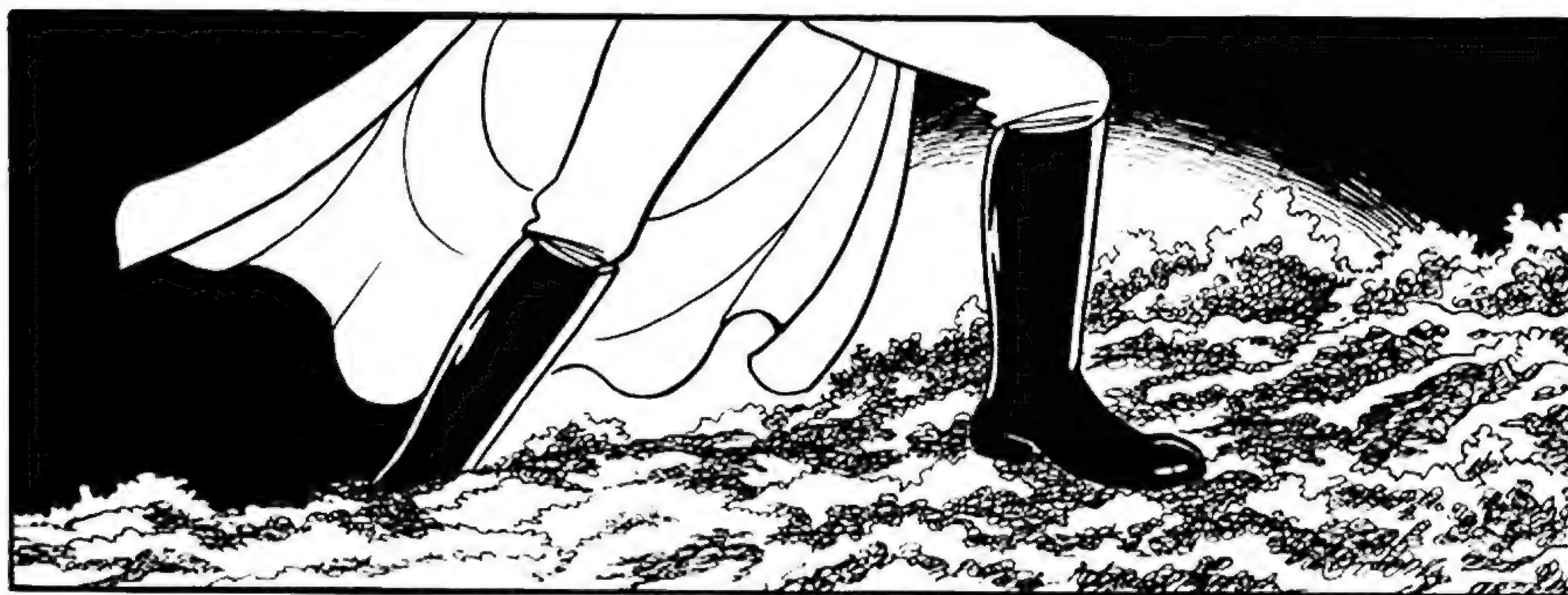

OH! UM.. I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THAT ....


TELL ME THE LOCATION OF THE ROCKET YOU SECRETLY BUILT IN ORDER TO ESCAPE FROM THE EARTH

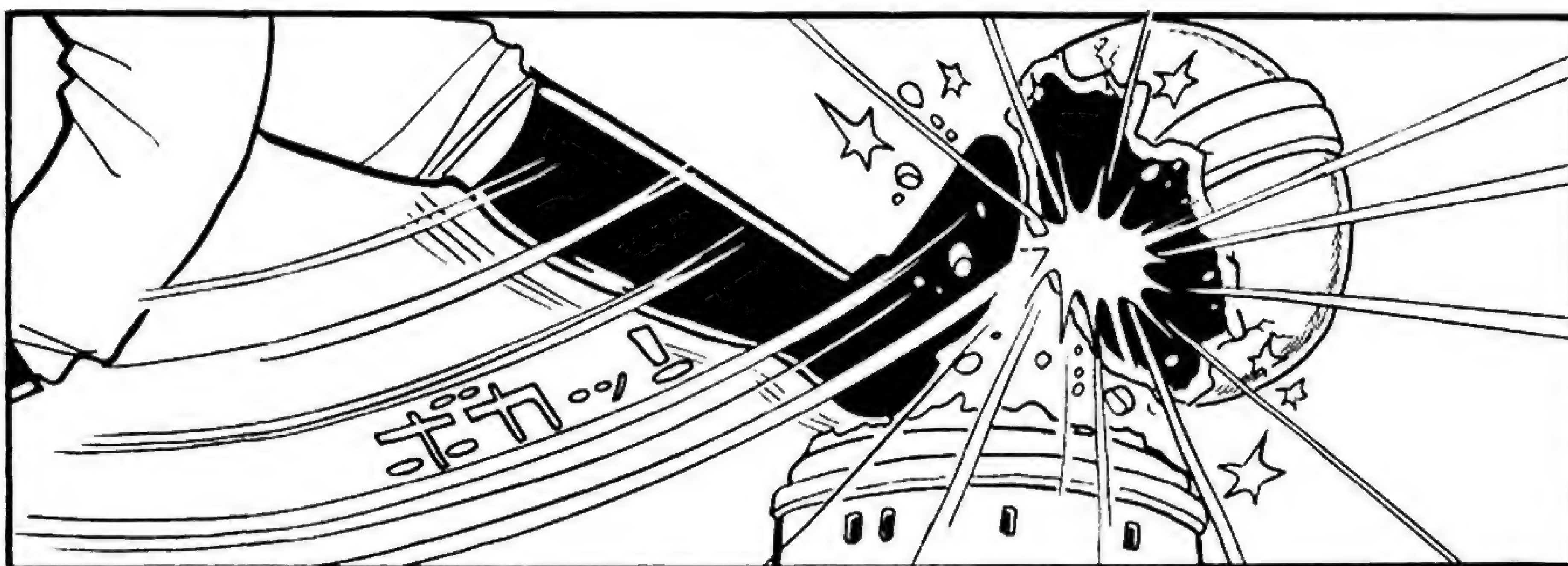

WRONG ANSWER!
YOU BETTER TELL ME


FINE! FINE! I-I-IT'S UNDER THE OBSERVATORY!
ALL RIGHT

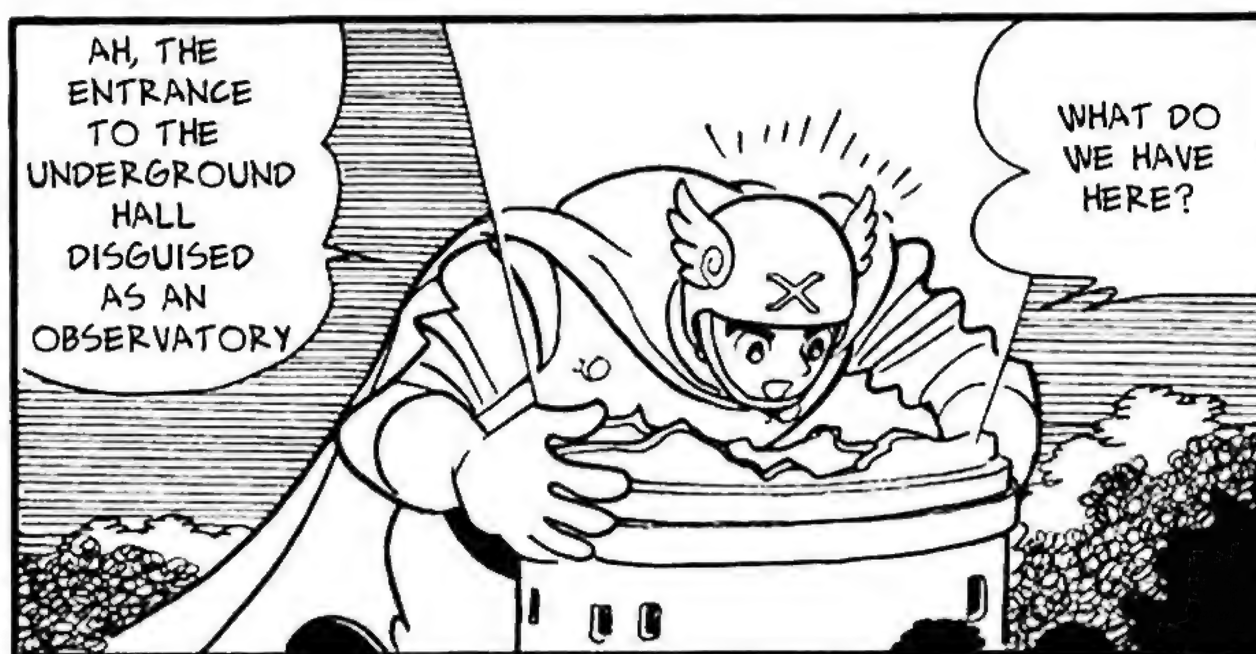

THERE'S THE OBSERVATORY




THIS IS IT? ARE THERE ANY PEOPLE IN IT?
NO... THERE'S NO ONE IN THERE

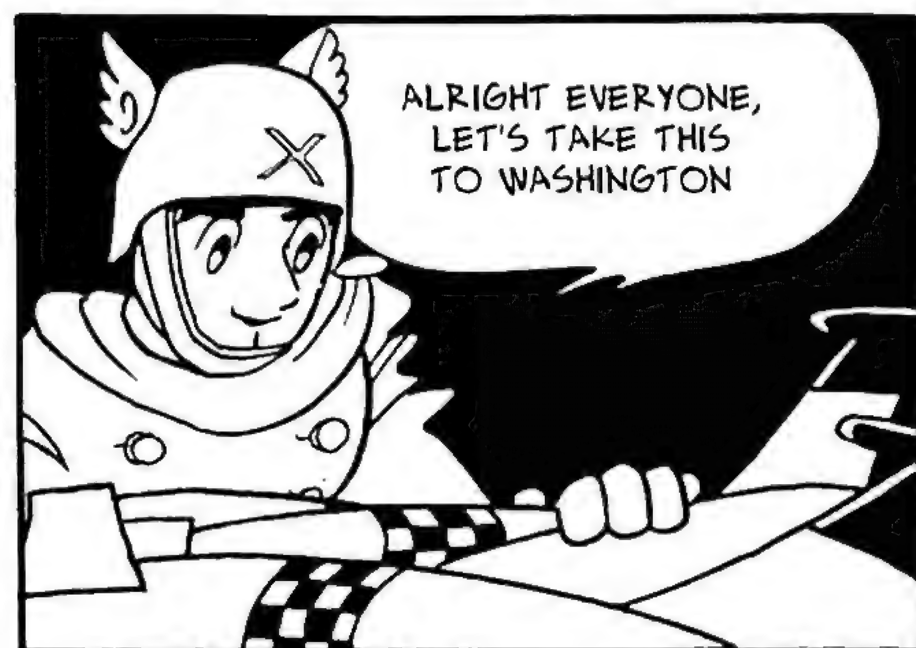

ポカッ!


OH, HERE'S SOMETHING BIG...


AH, THE ENTRANCE TO THE UNDERGROUND HALL DISGUISED AS AN OBSERVATORY
WHAT DO WE HAVE HERE?


SEEMS LIKE A SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR RADISHES

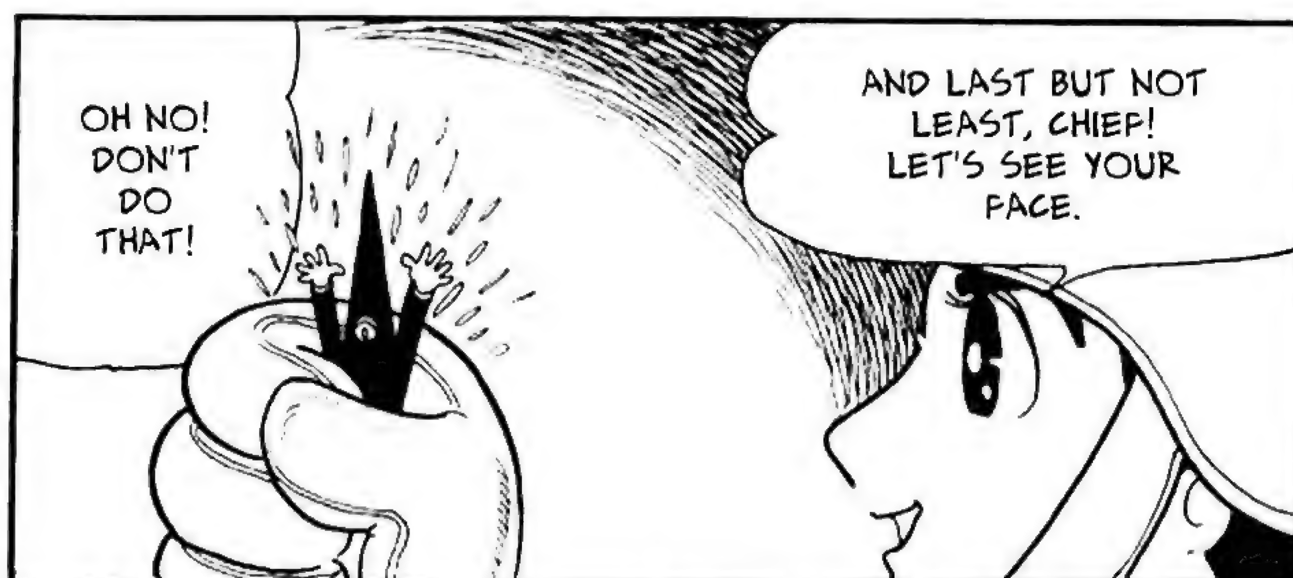

IT'S NOT A DAIKON .... MUST BE A ROCKET

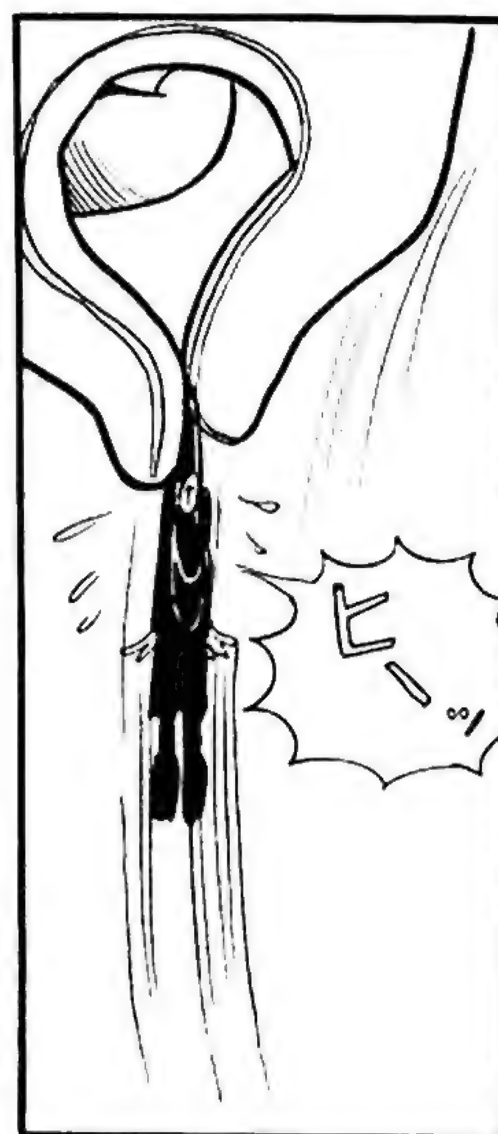

ALRIGHT EVERYONE, LET'S TAKE THIS TO WASHINGTON

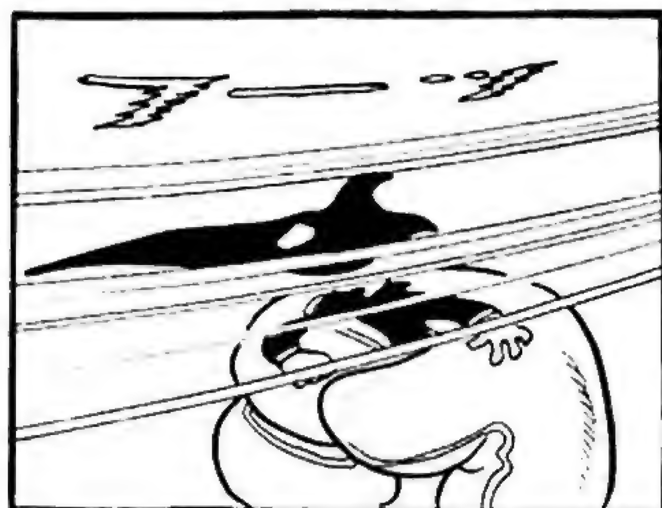

THE LAST ONE


I.... I HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE WHILE I STILL CAN


THEY CAN USE IT FOR THE SPACE PROGRAM


OH NO! DON'T DO THAT!
AND LAST BUT NOT LEAST, CHIEF! LET'S SEE YOUR FACE.

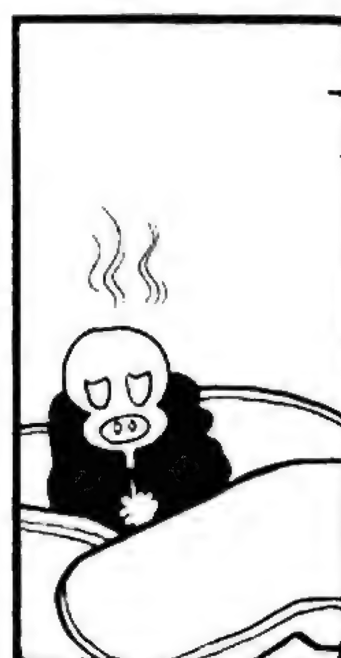





BEFORE YOU GET THROWN IN JAIL.... I'D LIKE TO SEE THE FACE OF THE MAN WHO CONCOCTED SUCH A VAST CONSPIRACY.

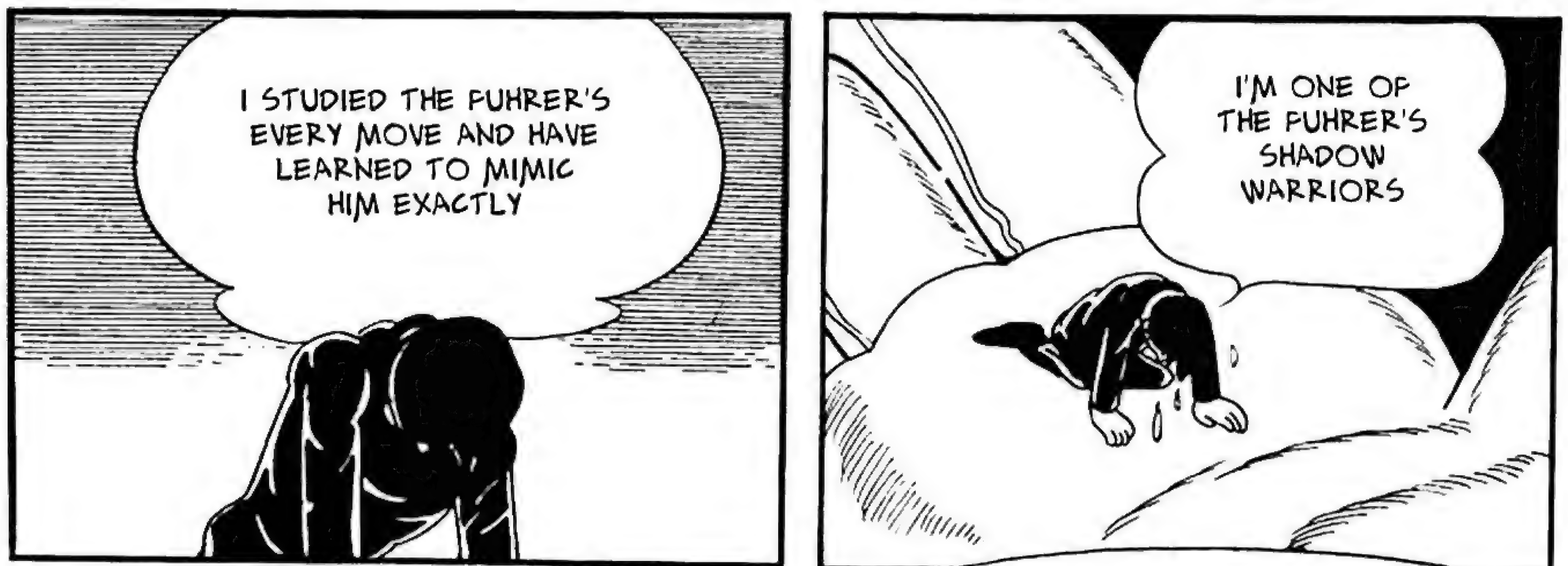



THAT'S THE WRONG FACE ON THE RIGHT

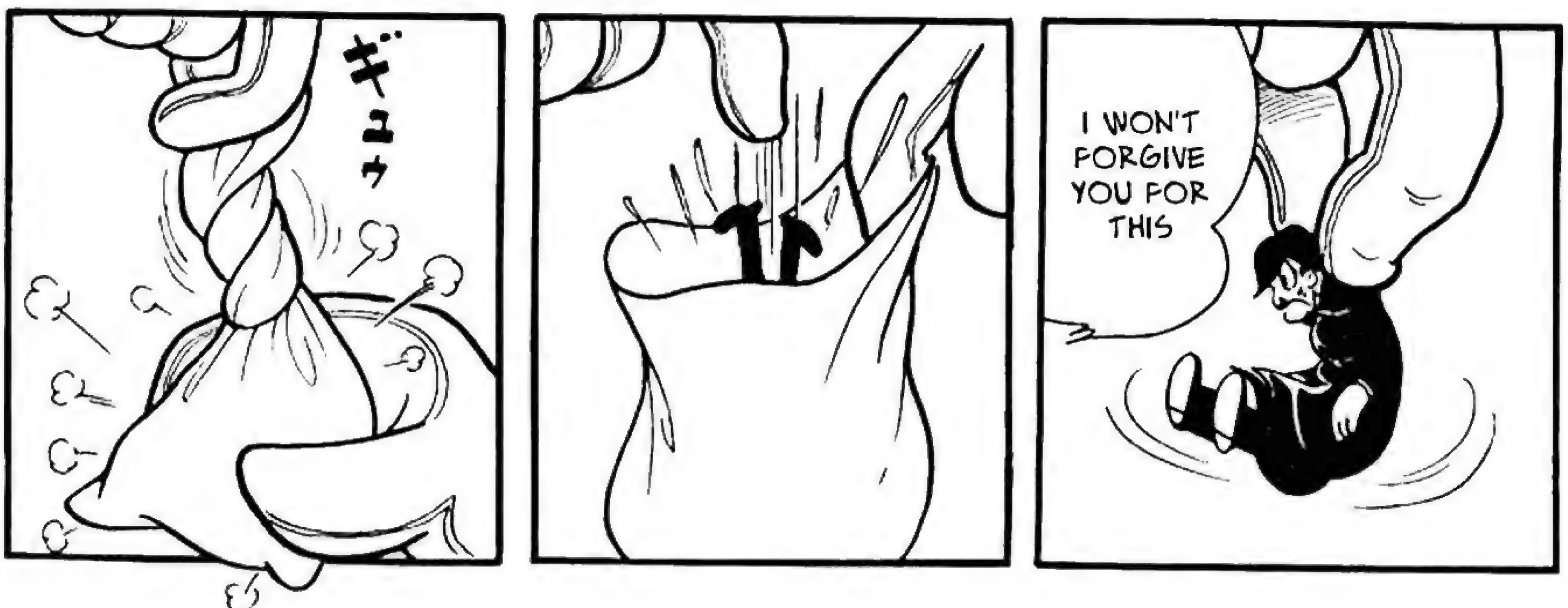



AH!?!

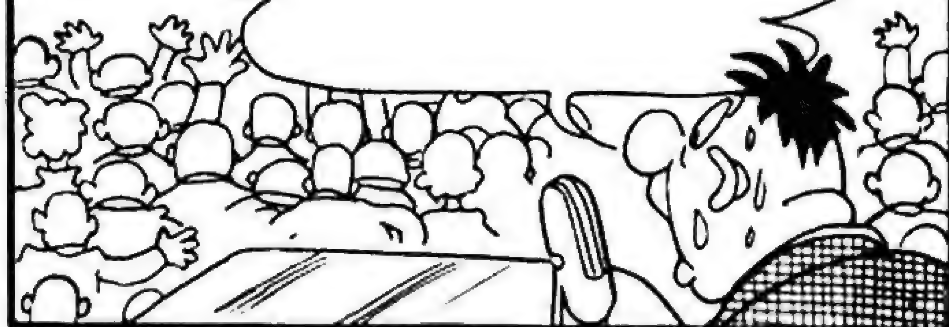

YOU... YOU'RE HITLER!
ARE YOU REALLY HITLER? WHO WAS SAID TO HAVE COMMITTED SUICIDE IN NAZI GERMAN?
NO! ... NO


I'M ONE OF THE FUHRER'S SHADOW WARRIORS
I STUDIED THE FUHRER'S EVERY MOVE AND HAVE LEARNED TO MIMIC HIM EXACTLY


AND AFTER THE FUHRER WAS GONE, I USED THIS FACE TO TRICK FORMER NAZIS INTO JOINING THE CROSS PARTY
YOU SON OF A BITCH
BUT I'M NOT THE REAL HITLER, YOU UNDERSTAND?


I WON'T FORGIVE YOU FOR THIS
ギュウ

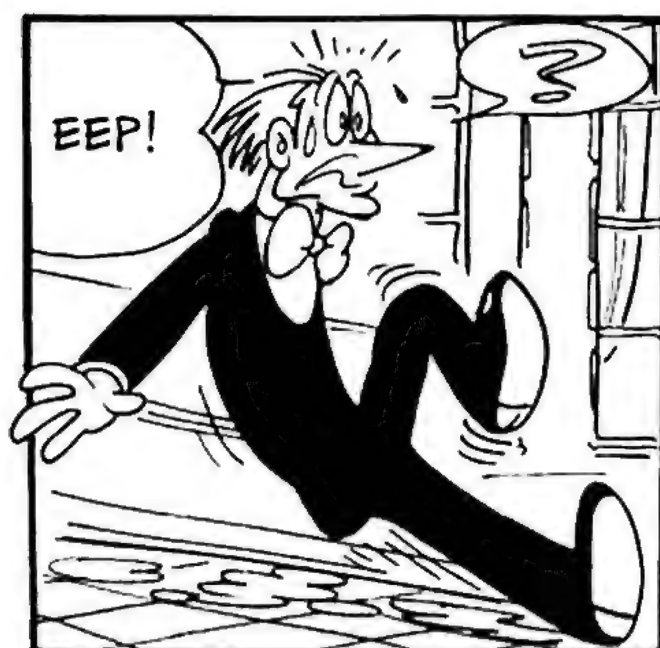

ALL RIGHT THEN... LET'S GO TO WASHINGTON

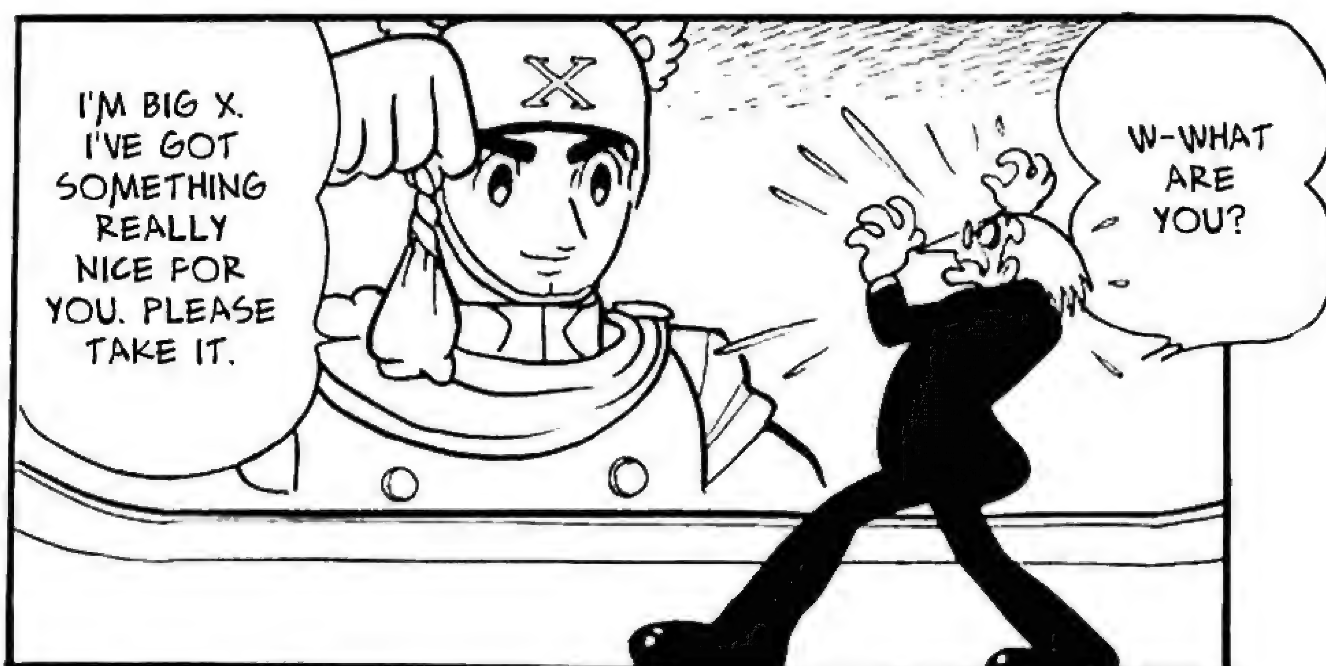

THE GIANT IS SAYING SOMETHING ABOUT GOING TO THE WHITE HOUSE.... AND WHAT IS HE GOING TO DO THERE?


HE'S A GIANT, LIKE GULLIVER, DRAGGING FORTY ROCKETS, AND HE'S BROUGHT TRAFFIC TO A COMPLETE STANDSTILL ON WASHINGTON'S MAIN STREETS.


PRESIDENT SILVER! COME ON OUT!

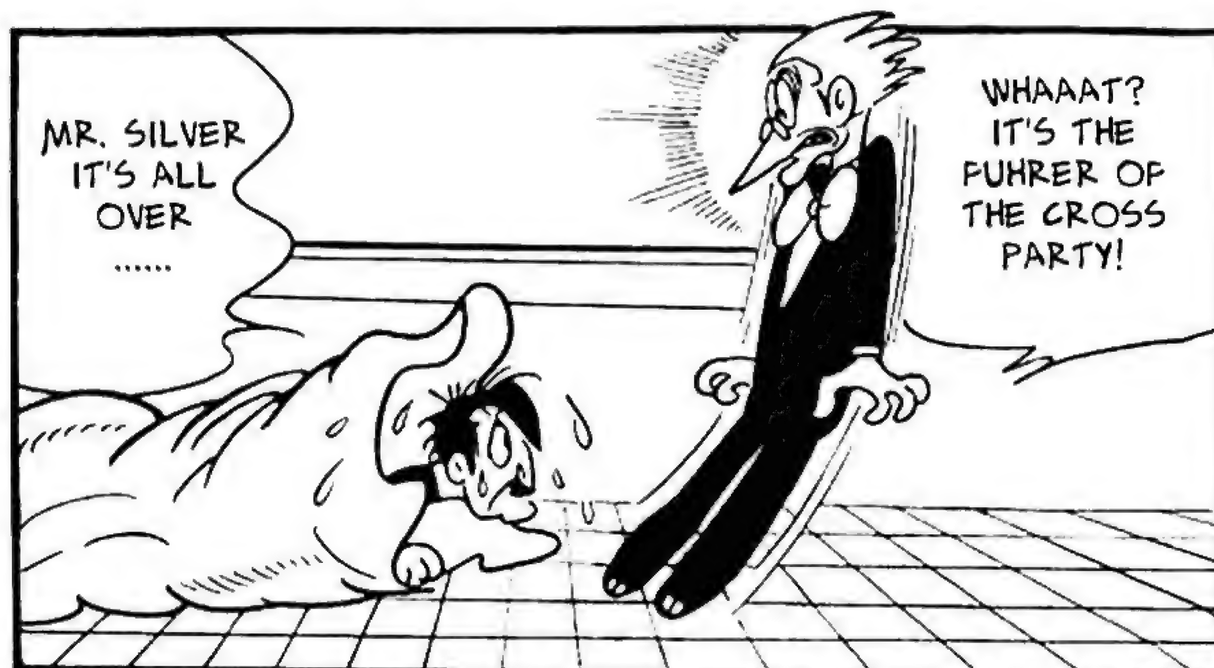

PRESIDENT SILVER!
HELLO PRESIDENT SILVER! I'VE BROUGHT YOU A GIFT!


?
EEP!


W-WHAT ARE YOU?
I'M BIG X. I'VE GOT SOMETHING REALLY NICE FOR YOU. PLEASE TAKE IT.

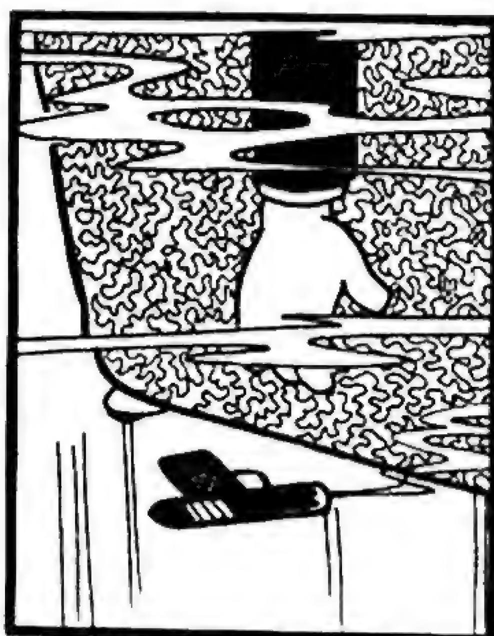

HUH?

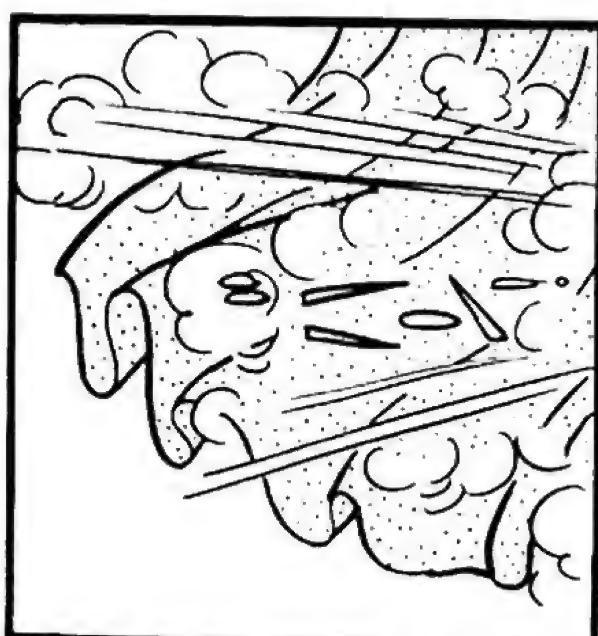

GO AHEAD AND OPEN IT


WHAAAT? IT'S THE FUHRER OF THE CROSS PARTY!
MR. SILVER IT'S ALL OVER ......




MR. PRESIDENT.
I WANT YOU TO APOLOGIZE IN FRONT OF THE PEOPLE, AND THE WHOLE WORLD, FOR ALL THE CONSPIRACIES YOU'VE BEEN INVOLVED IN

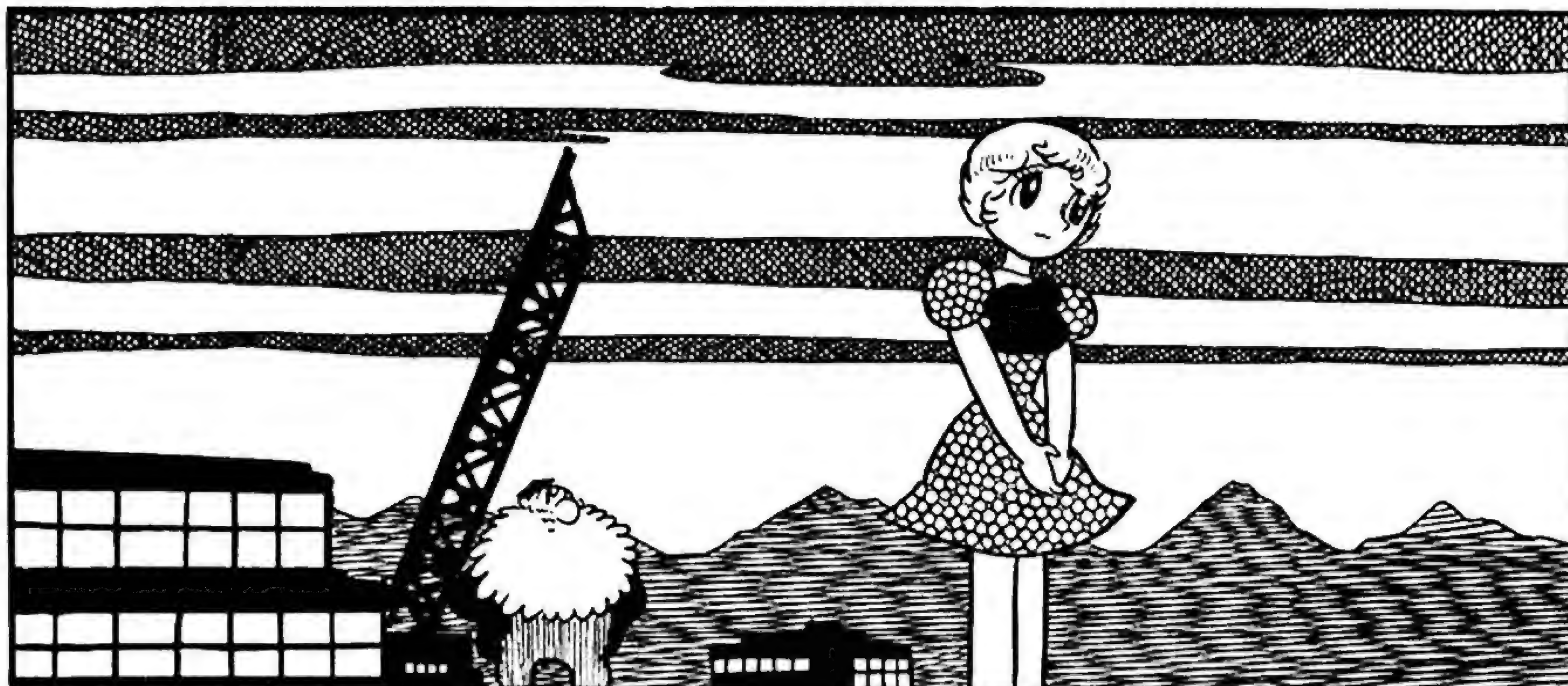


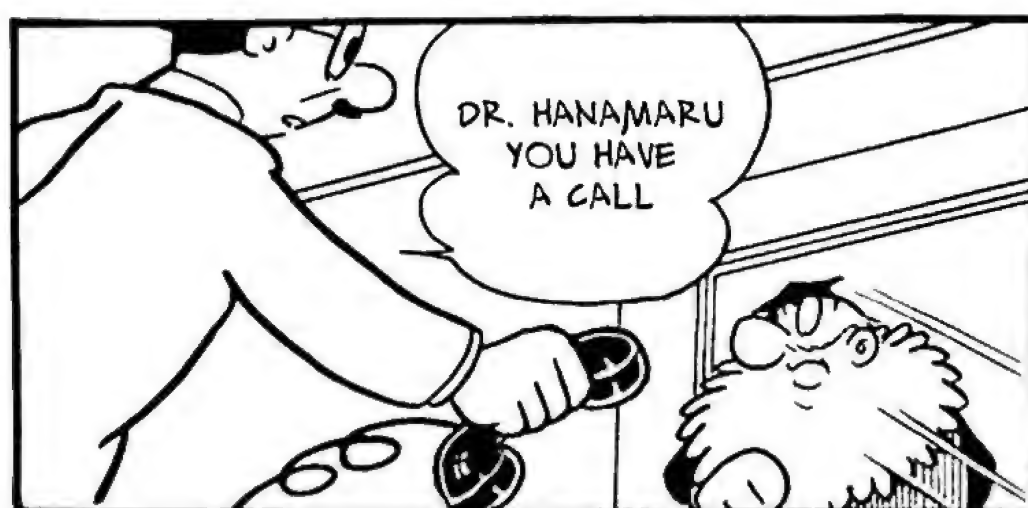











DR. HANAMARU YOU HAVE A CALL

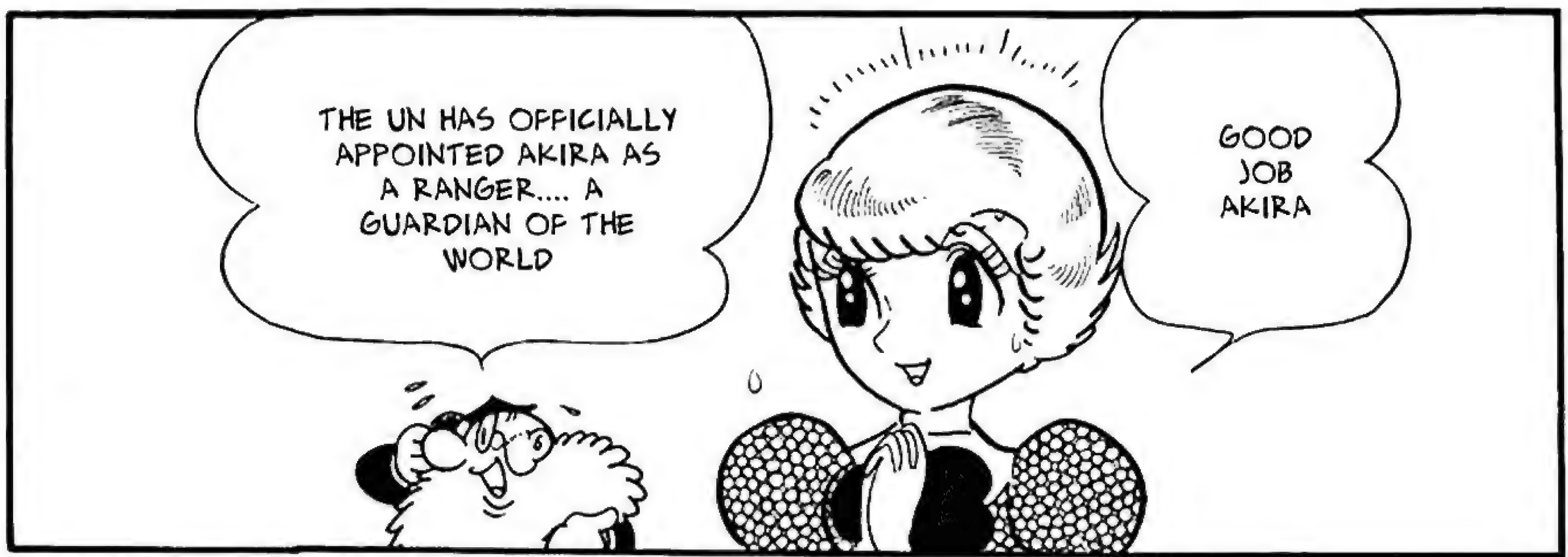

ジャー!


AKIRA?
YOU'VE TURNED THE CROSS PARTY OVER TO THE UN POLICE?


HELLO? OH IT'S YOU AKIRA!
I HEARD YOU ARE IN WASHINGTON?


NINA!
AKIRA USED THE POWER OF BIG X TO PREVENT THE WAR FROM STARTING AND TO SAVE THE EARTH!

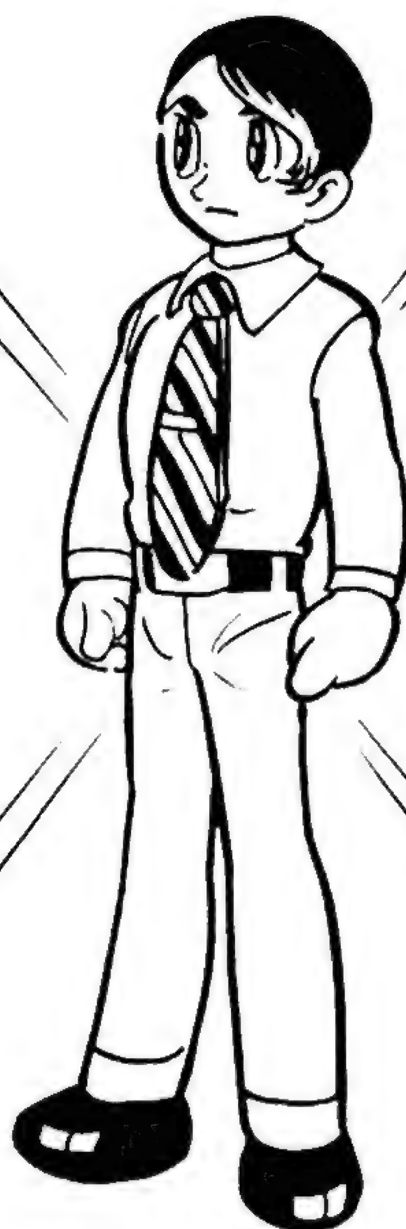

OH WOW, IT WAS A SUCCESS!
PRESIDENT SILVER HAS COMMITTED SUICIDE!
HE CHOSE TO DIE BECAUSE HE WAS ACCUSED OF BEING A MEMBER OF THE CROSS PARTY.



NINA, IT'S A BEAUTIFUL MORNING AND A PEACEFUL ONE AT THAT

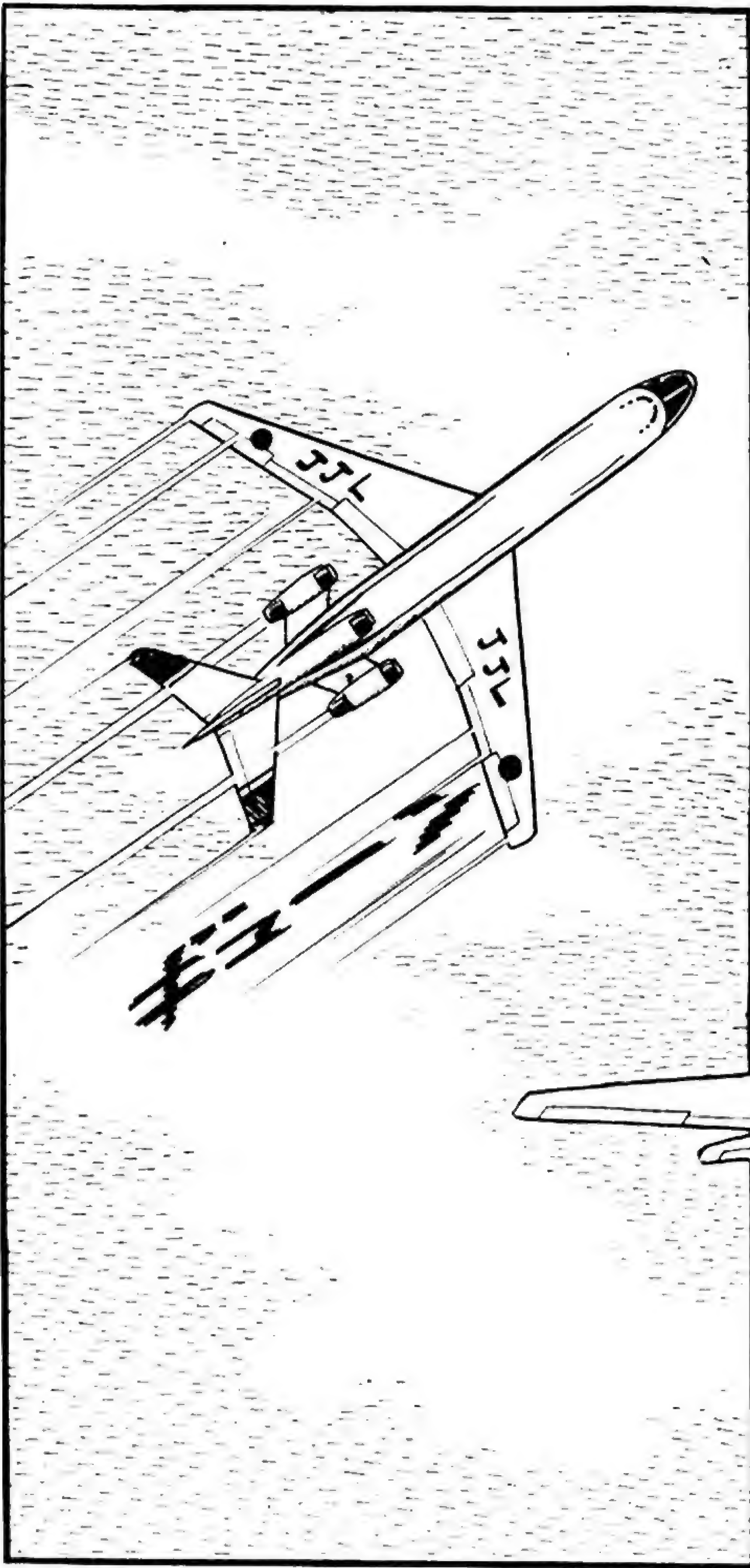
IT'S BECAUSE AKIRA PUT EVERYTHING HE HAS INTO BEING BIG X

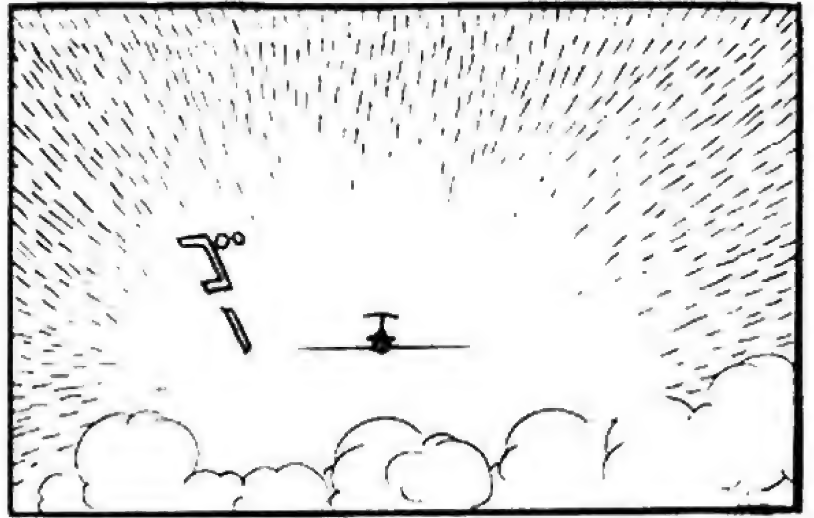
APPOINTED AS A
RANGER FOR THE
UNITED NATIONS
ORGANIZATION,
BIG X... OR
AKIRA ASAGUMO...
HAS A WHOLE
NEW MISSION
AHEAD OF HIM

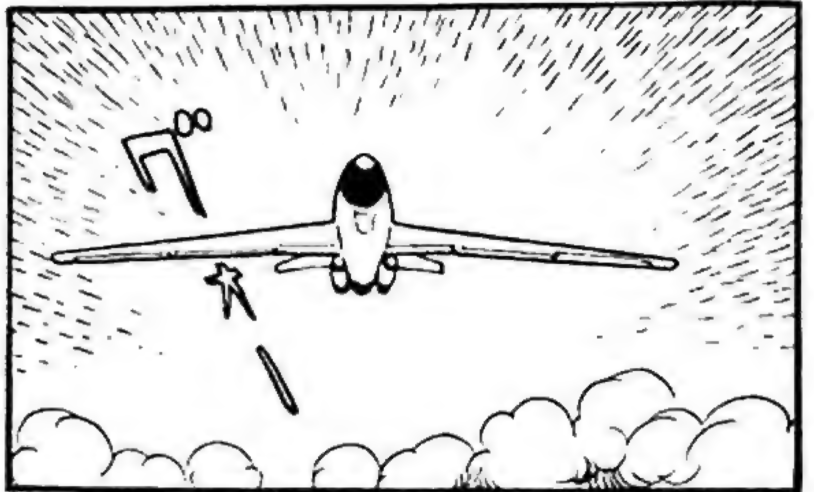


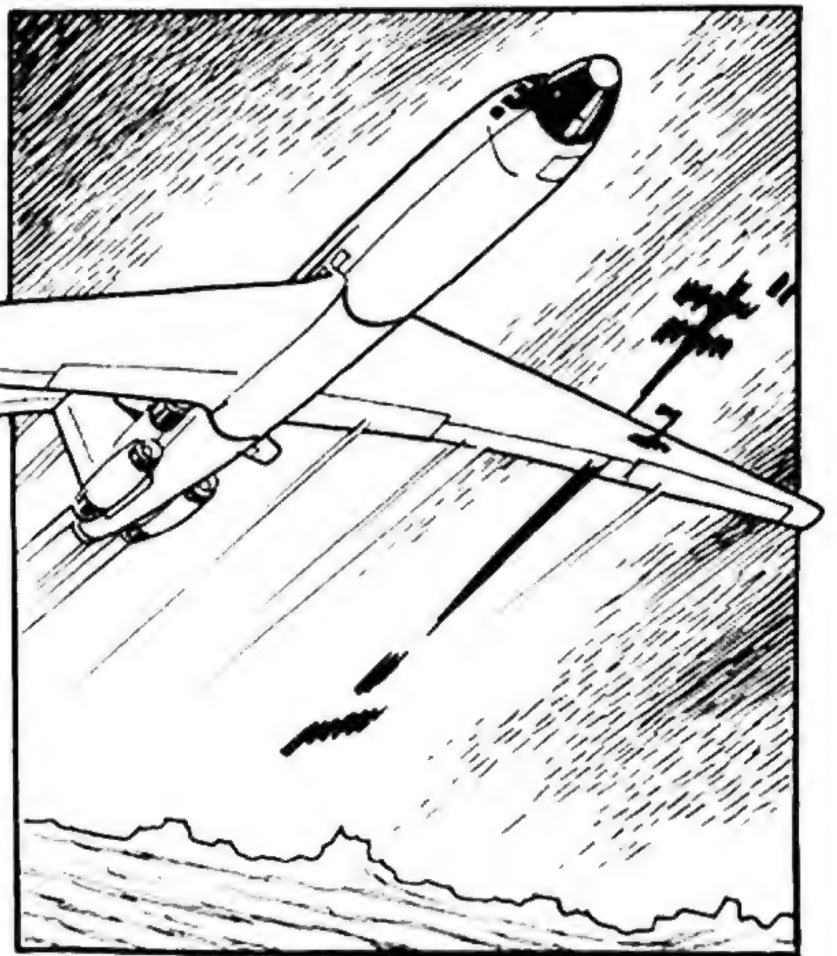
CHAPTER 15

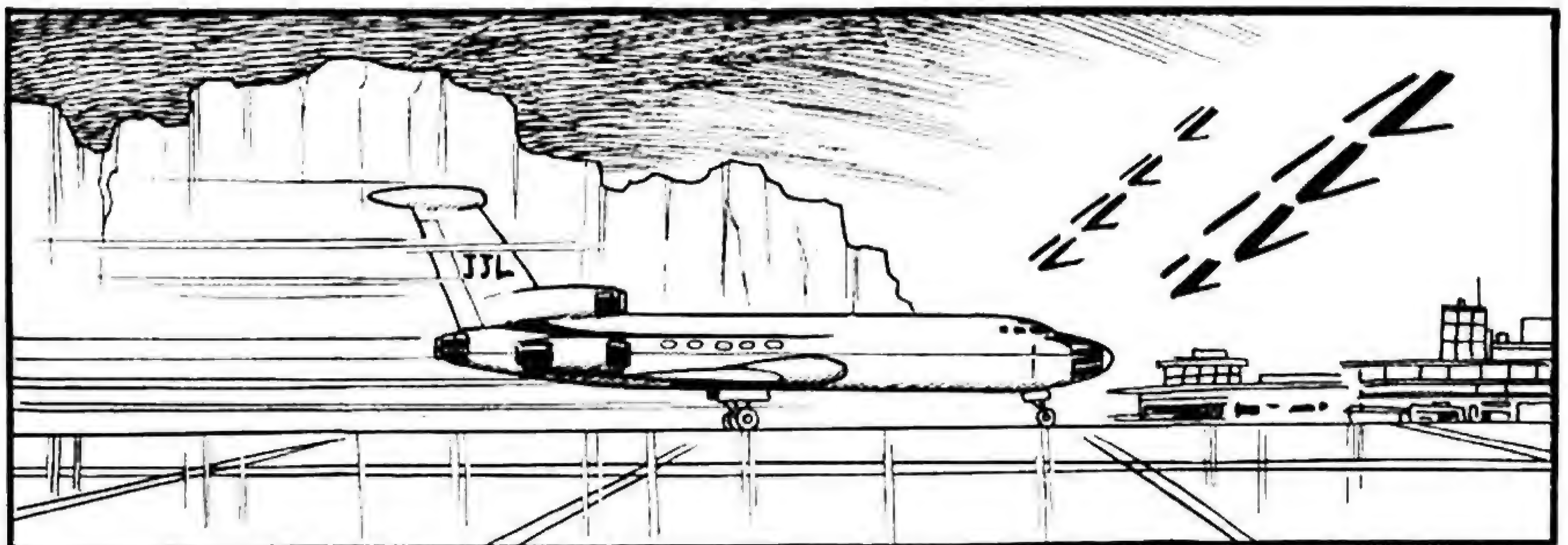
"THE RATS" FORTRESS


キューン

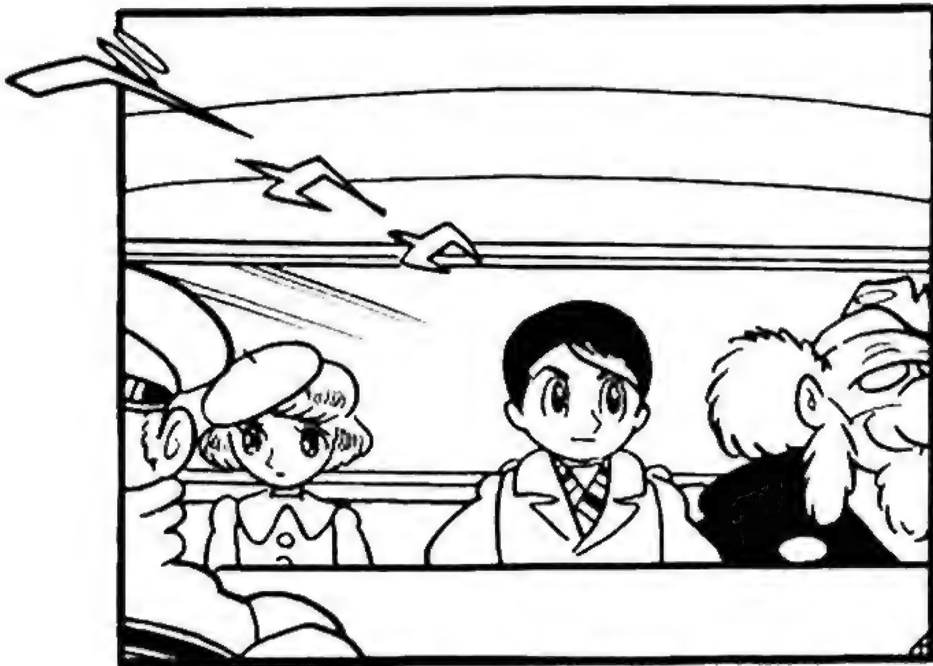




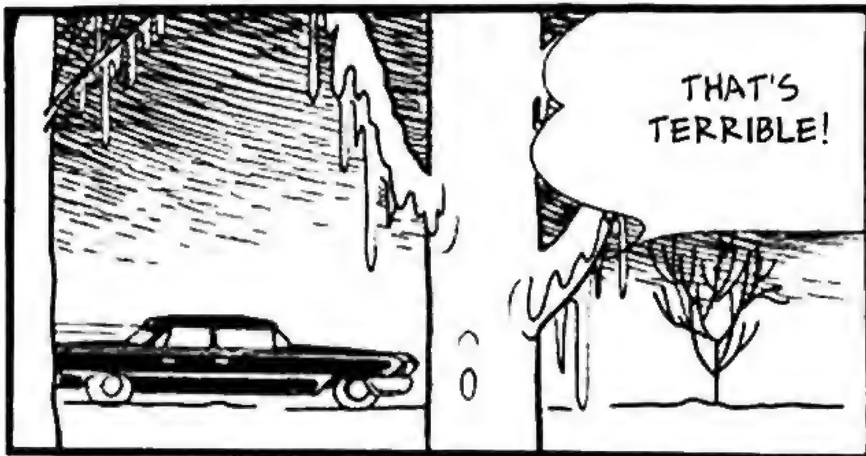
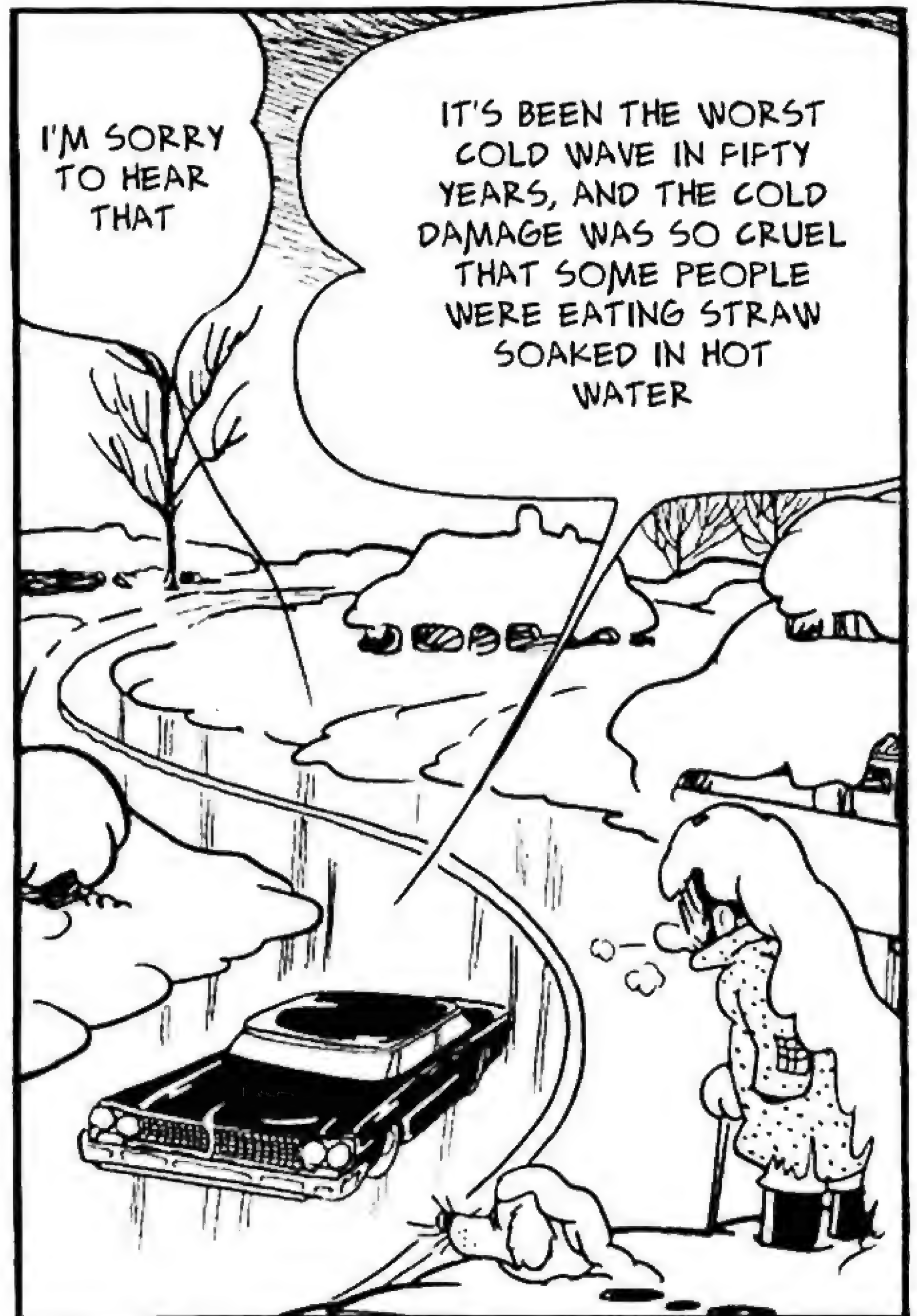
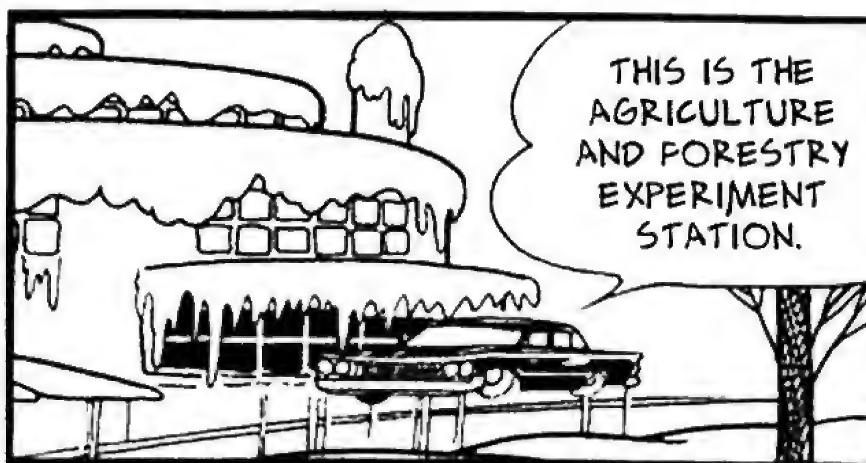





OH, BIG X, THANK YOU FOR COMING TO SUCH A COLD COUNTRY
DR. BURP, IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU. THIS IS MY PARTNER, NINA

PLEASE COME ALONG IN THE CAR

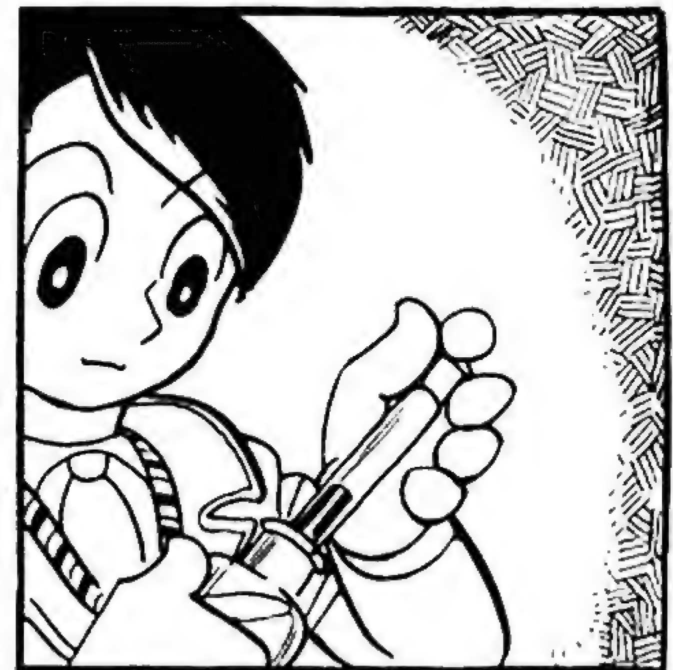
I ASKED THE U.N. IF WE COULD BORROW YOU'RE BIG X TRICK

THAT'S TERRIBLE!

IT'S BEEN THE WORST COLD WAVE IN FIFTY YEARS, AND THE COLD DAMAGE WAS SO CRUEL THAT SOME PEOPLE WERE EATING STRAW SOAKED IN HOT WATER
I'M SORRY TO HEAR THAT

THIS IS THE AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY EXPERIMENT STATION.

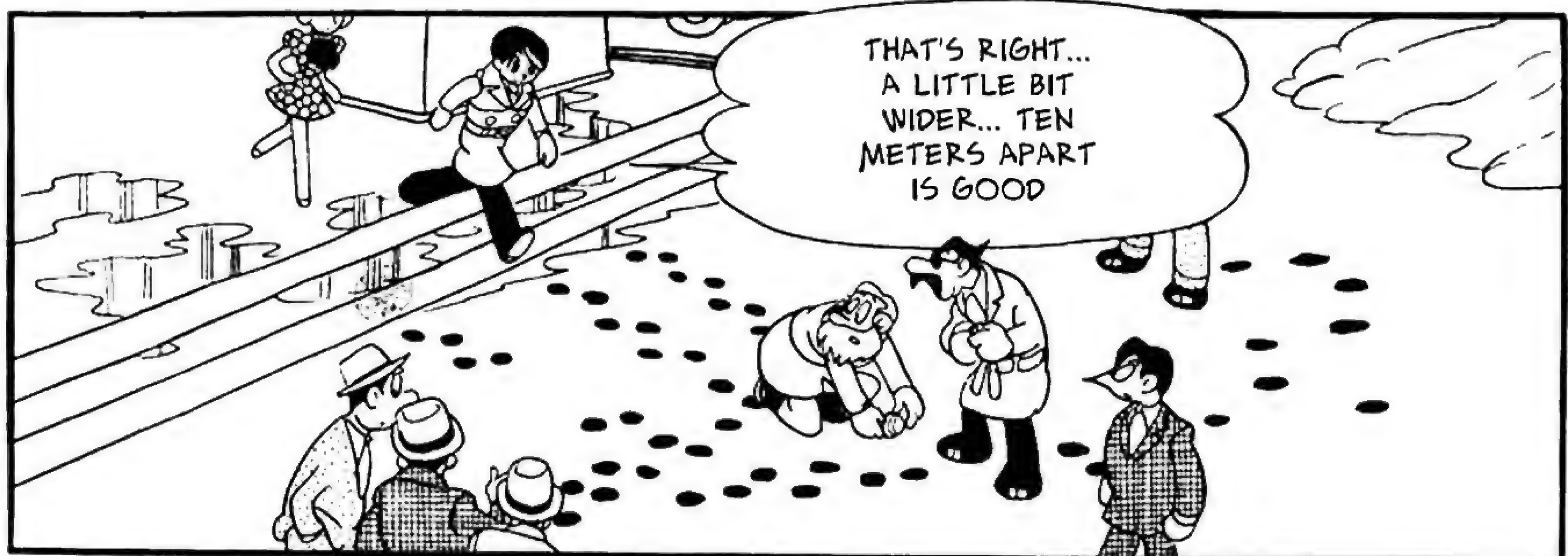


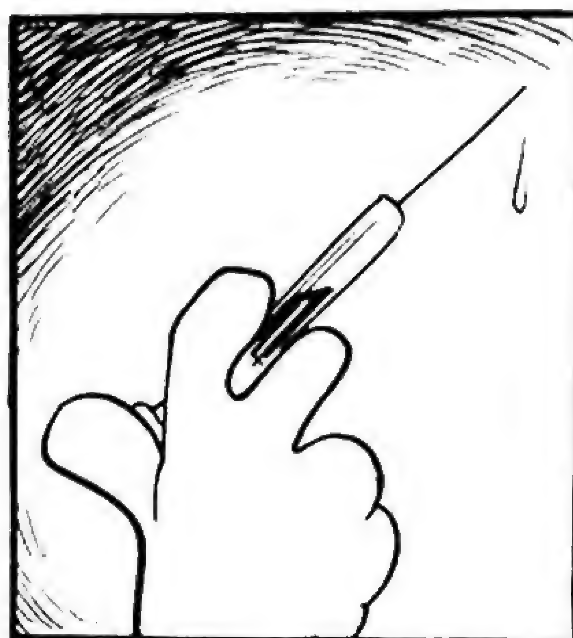
NINA, HAND ME THE BIG X BOTTLE
YES

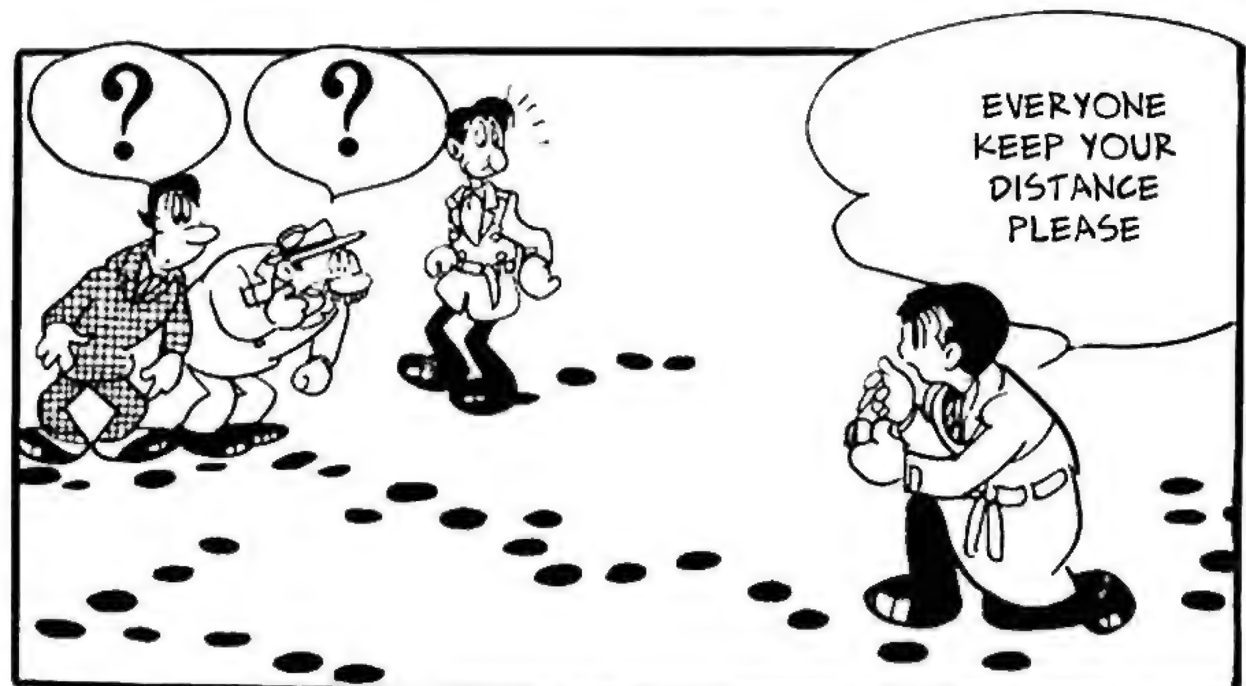

LOOK AT THESE POTATOES
THEY LOOK LIKE ROCKS!


OKAY, PLEASE PUT TEN POTATOES OUTSIDE
?
?

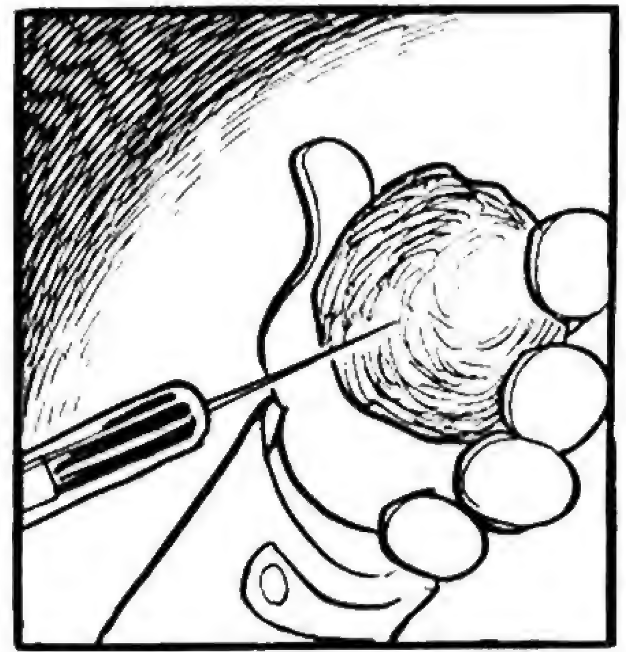


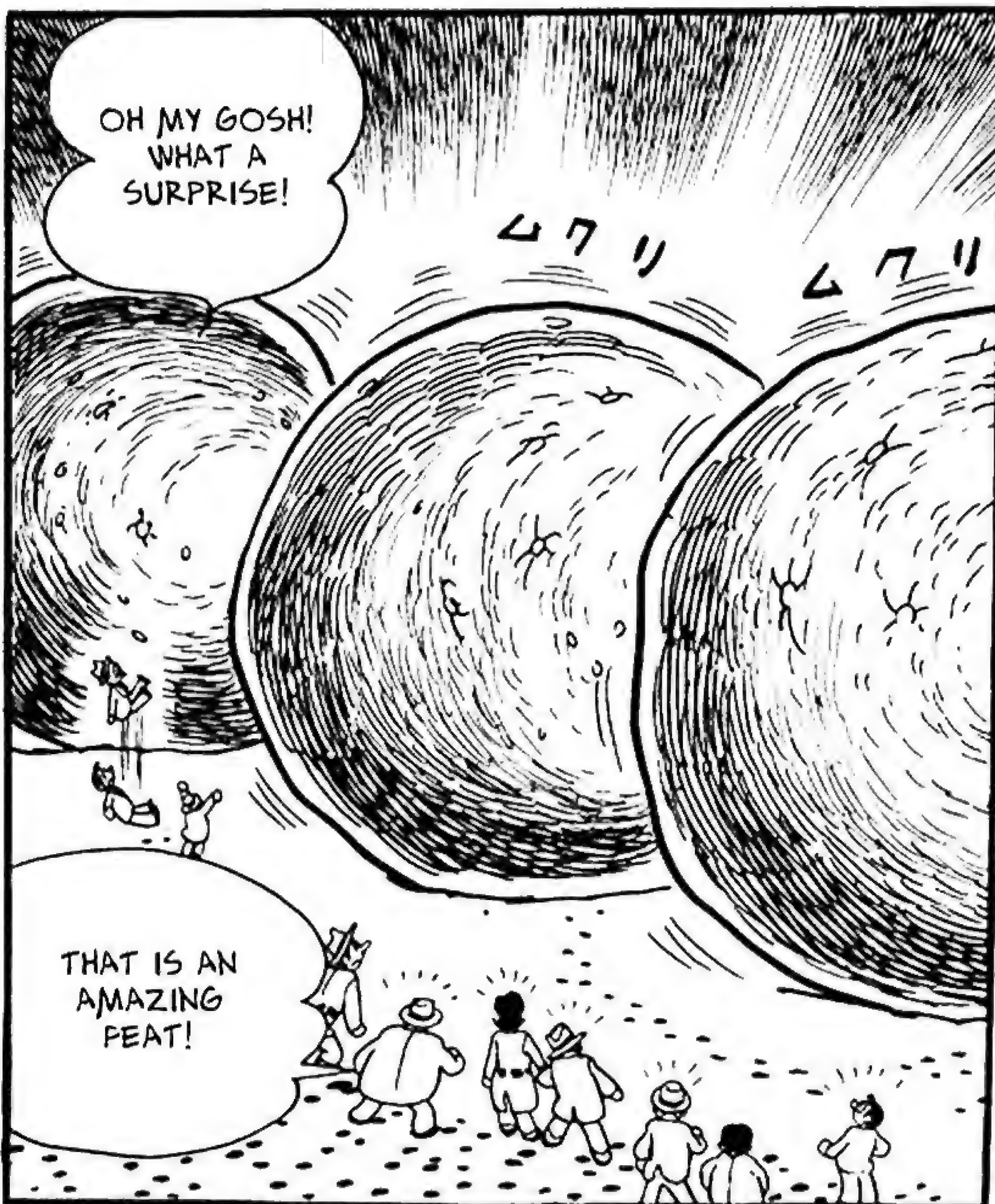

THAT'S RIGHT... A LITTLE BIT WIDER... TEN METERS APART IS GOOD

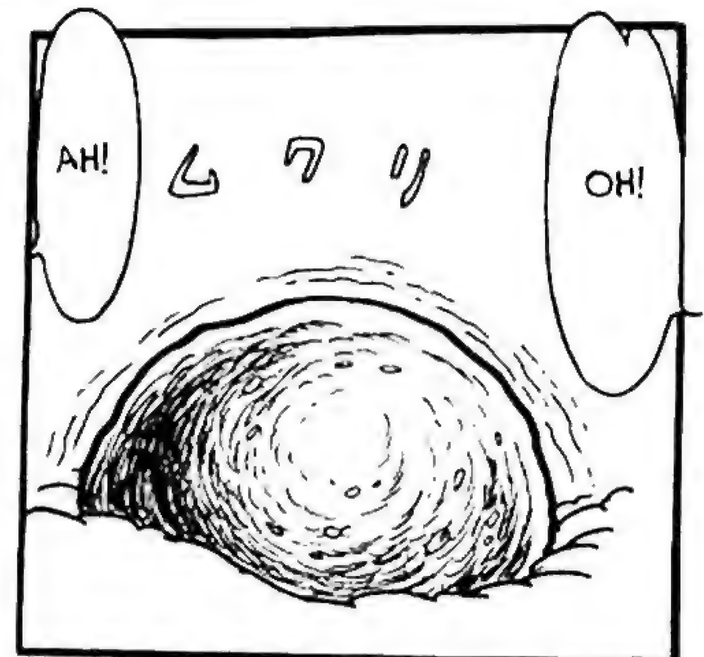


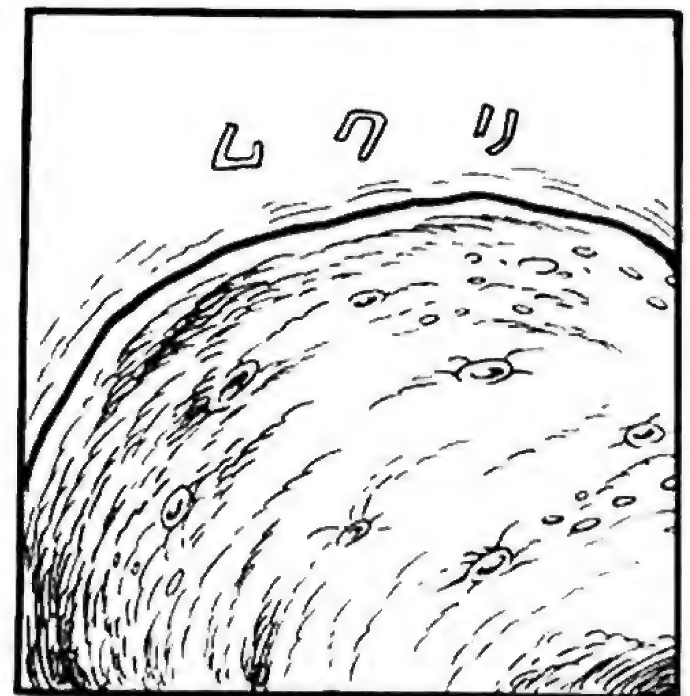

EVERYONE KEEP YOUR DISTANCE PLEASE
?
?


THAT'S IT, YOU CAN SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING




OH MY GOSH! WHAT A SURPRISE!
ムクリ
ムクリ
THAT IS AN AMAZING FEAT!


AH!
ムクリ
OH!

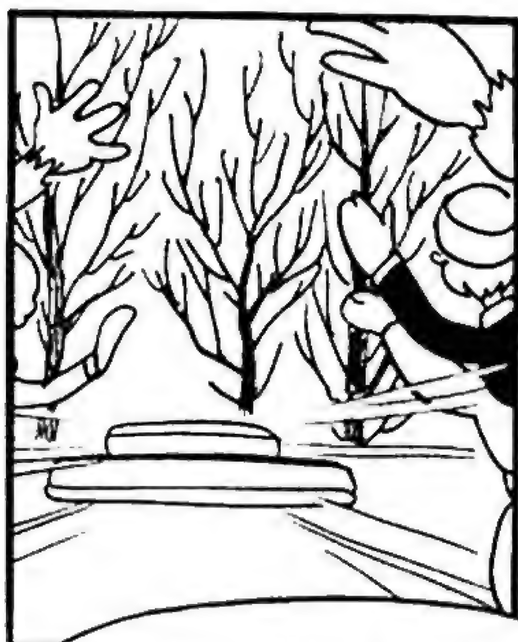

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THERE'S ENOUGH TO GO AROUND TO EVERYONE IN THE REGION!
THESE POTATOES ARE TEN METERS ACROSS. THEY SHOULD LAST ALL WINTER, RIGHT?




ROLL THEM BACK TO THE VILLAGE
THANK YOU! THIS WILL HELP SO MUCH!
THAT'S SUCH AN AMAZING POTION. I WISH I COULD GET MY HANDS ON THAT DRUG!


I THINK WE CAN FEED TWO OR THREE MORE VILLAGES WITH THIS...



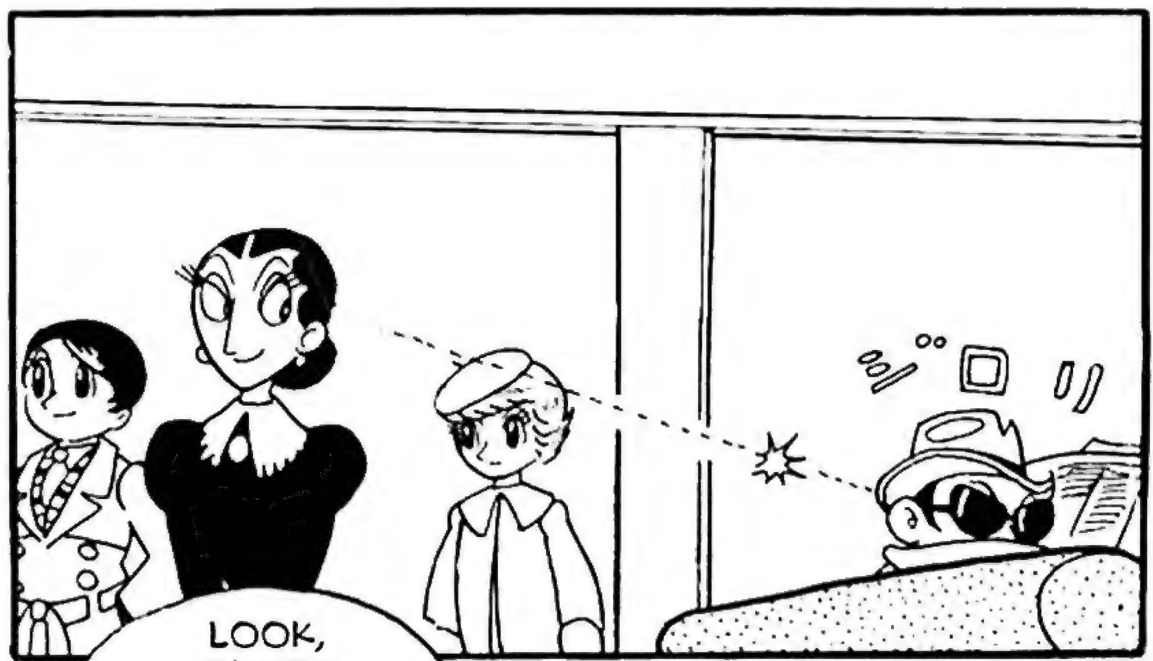

CAN YOU PLEASE MAKE THIS MEAT BIGGER TOO?
I'M SORRY, BUT BIG X DOESN'T WORK ON DEAD THINGS
IT WILL ONLY GROW LIVING CELLS

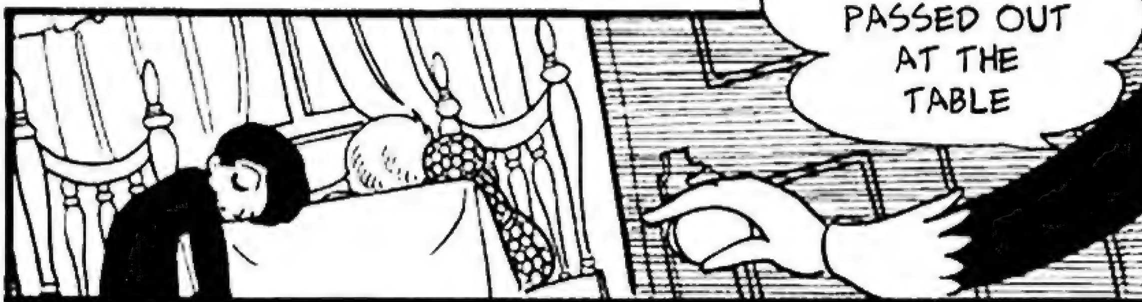

OH MAN, IT FEELS GOOD TO HELP PEOPLE
HOTEL
ホテル


WE SHOULD TAKE A BREAK
ホテル
HOTEL

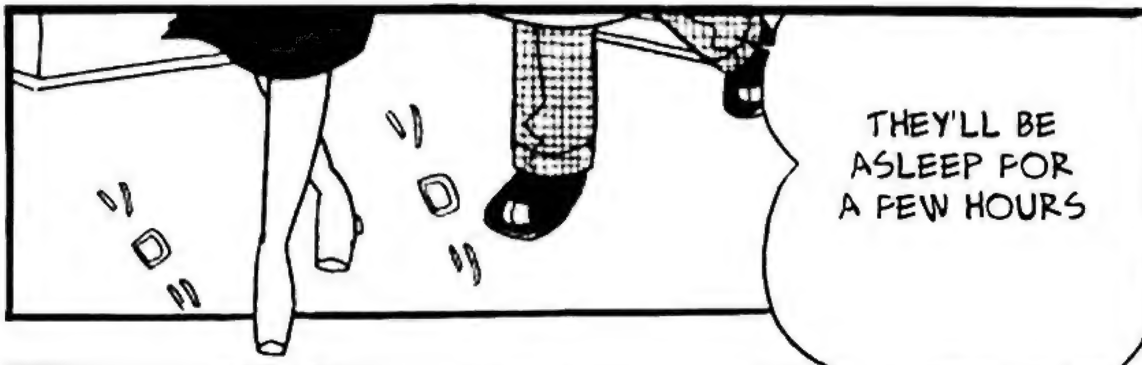

YOU MUST BE TIRED .....
THERE'S A BED FOR YOU UPSTAIRS SIR

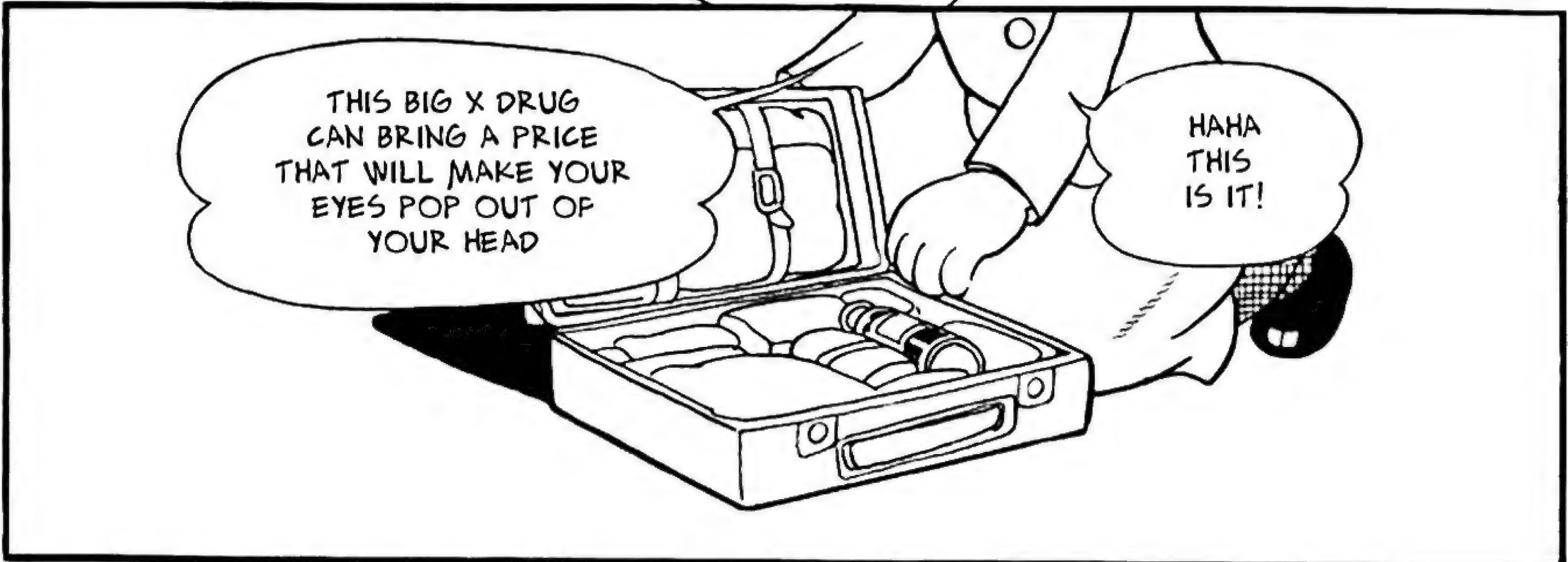

HAVE A CUP OF TEA

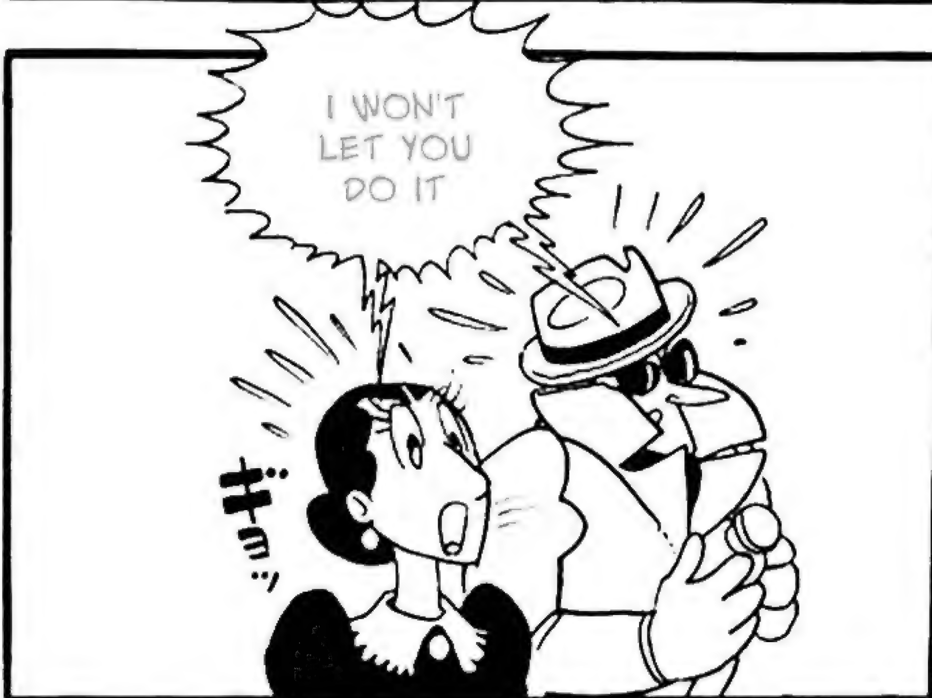

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LOOK, THEY'RE PASSED OUT AT THE TABLE


DID THEY GET THEIR DRINKS?
YES, AND THE SLEEPING PILLS SHOULD KICK IN SOON


THEY'LL BE ASLEEP FOR A FEW HOURS


HAHA THIS IS IT!
THIS BIG X DRUG CAN BRING A PRICE THAT WILL MAKE YOUR EYES POP OUT OF YOUR HEAD

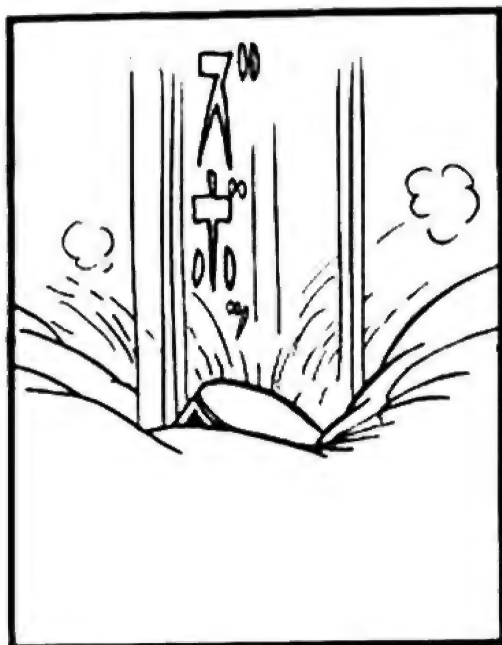

I WON'T LET YOU DO IT
ギョッ

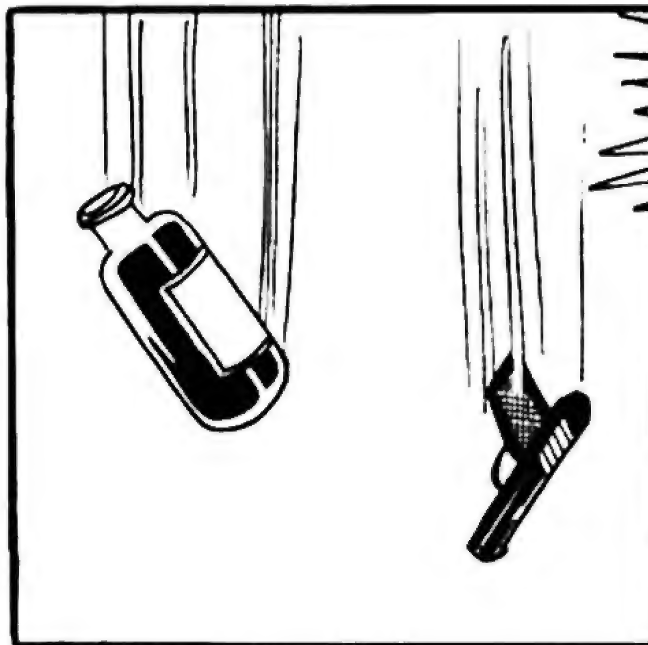

NOW WE CAN HAVE ANYTHING WE WANT

A THIEF HAS NO RIGHTS TO IT
ONLY AKIRA HAS THE RIGHT TO THE BIG X DRUG
W-WHO'S THERE?

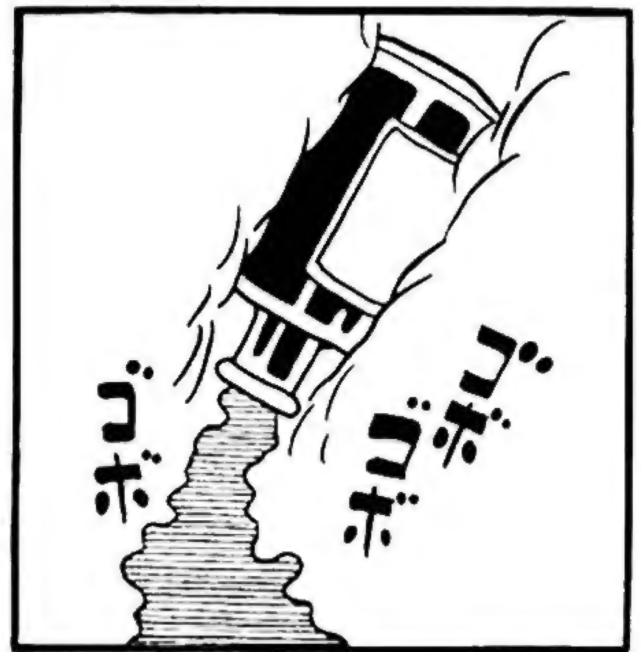






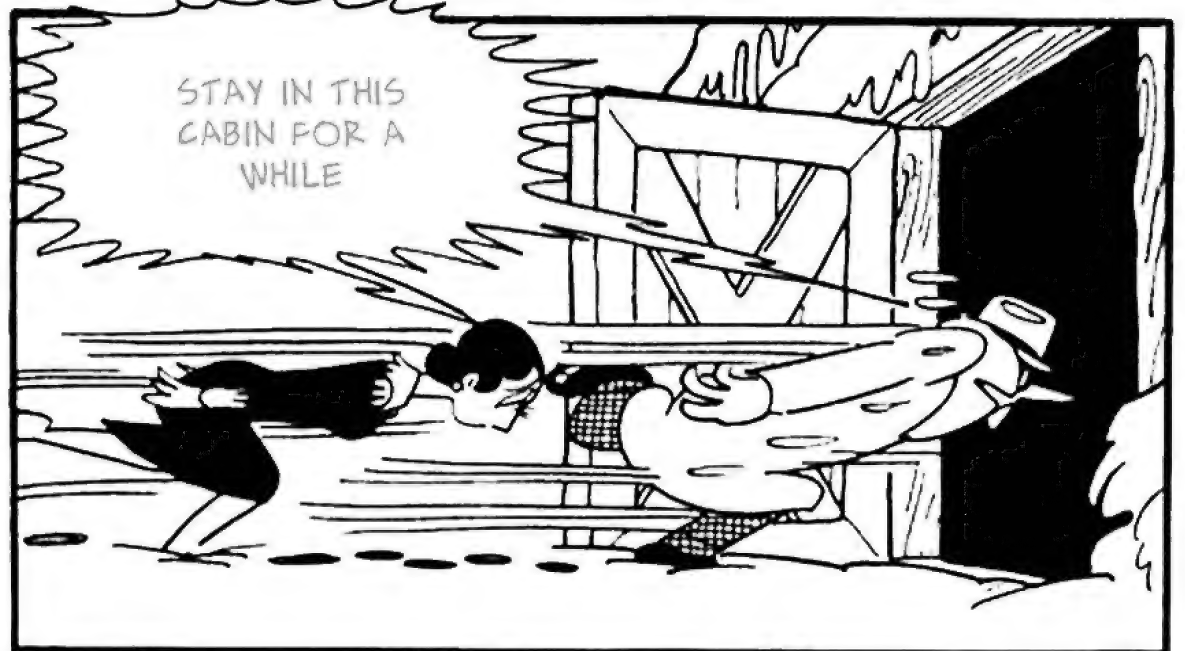





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NOW GET GOING!
ピクン

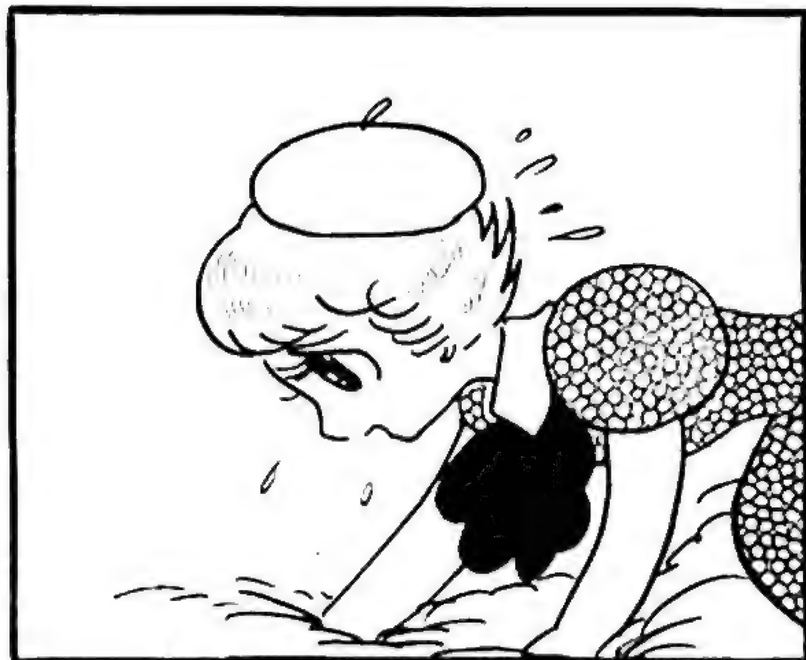

WHERE IS THE BOTTLE OF BIG X?
HUP! HUP! HUP!
I-I-I DROPPED IT....
I-I-IT F-FELL IN THE S-SNOW


STAY IN THIS CABIN FOR A WHILE

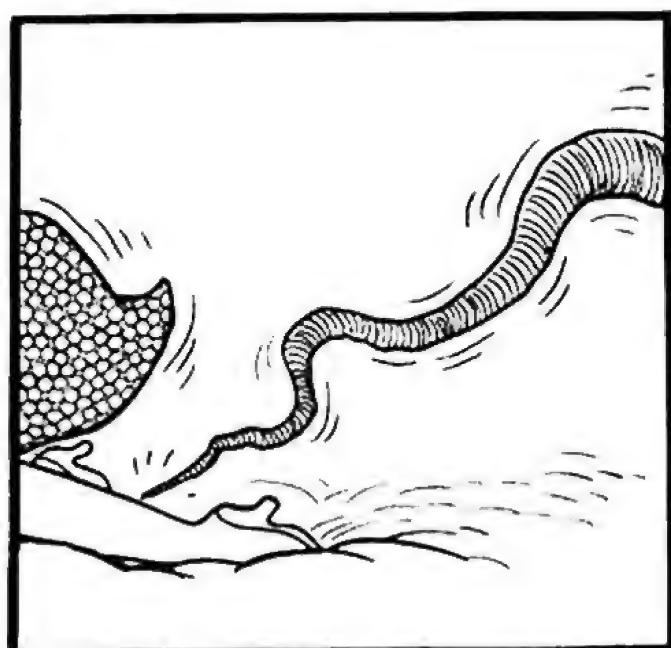


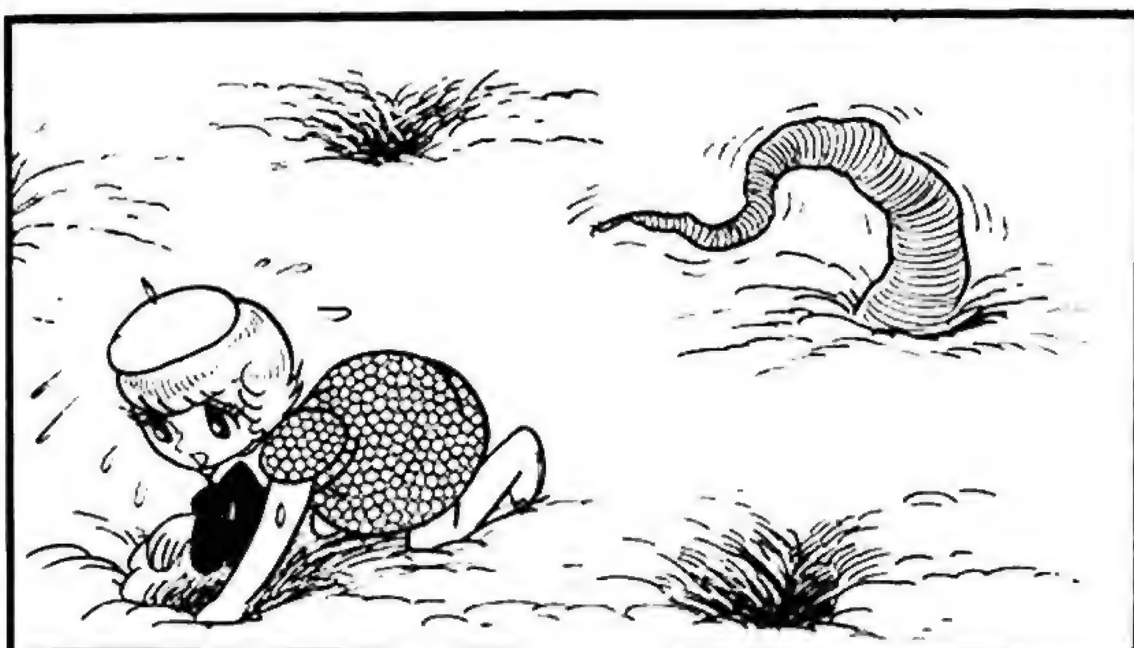

I REALLY DON'T HAVE THE TIME TO DEAL WITH YOU


AKIRA... AKIRA PLEASE WAKE UP
COME ON
OH, WHAT DO I DO?
snore




I CAN'T FIND WHERE THEY DROPPED IT

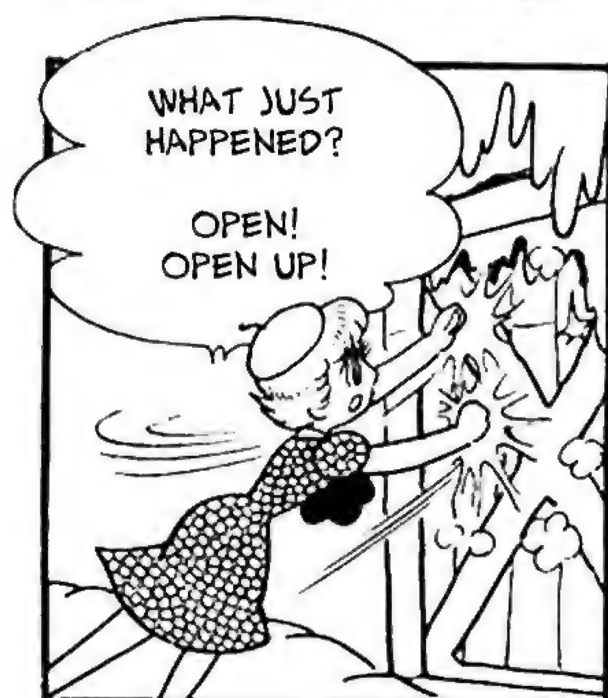





KYAAAAAHHH

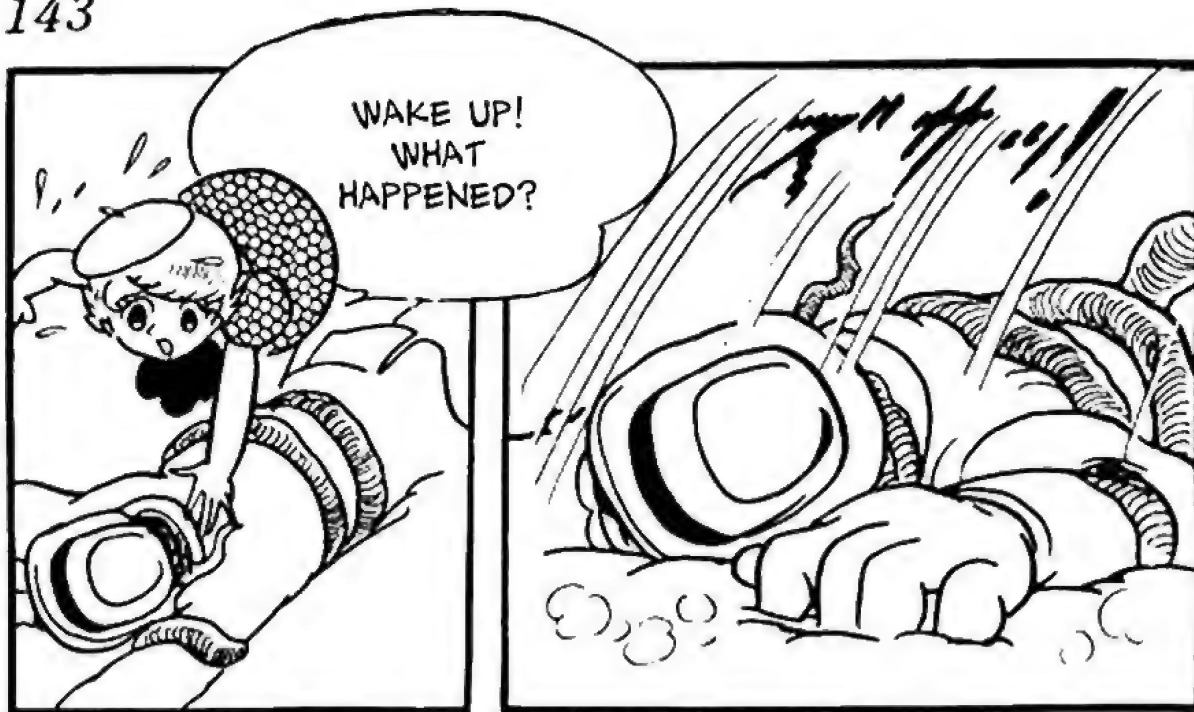



HUH?


WHAT JUST HAPPENED?
OPEN! OPEN UP!


WOAH! WHAT WAS THAT?


バタン!!


WAKE UP!
WHAT
HAPPENED?






OHH!
THE FLOORBOARDS
ARE BREAKING!






OH NO
EEEEK!




HELP! I NEED HELP!


ハッ
HELP ME!


MMNINYA WUH IZZIT
AKIRA!

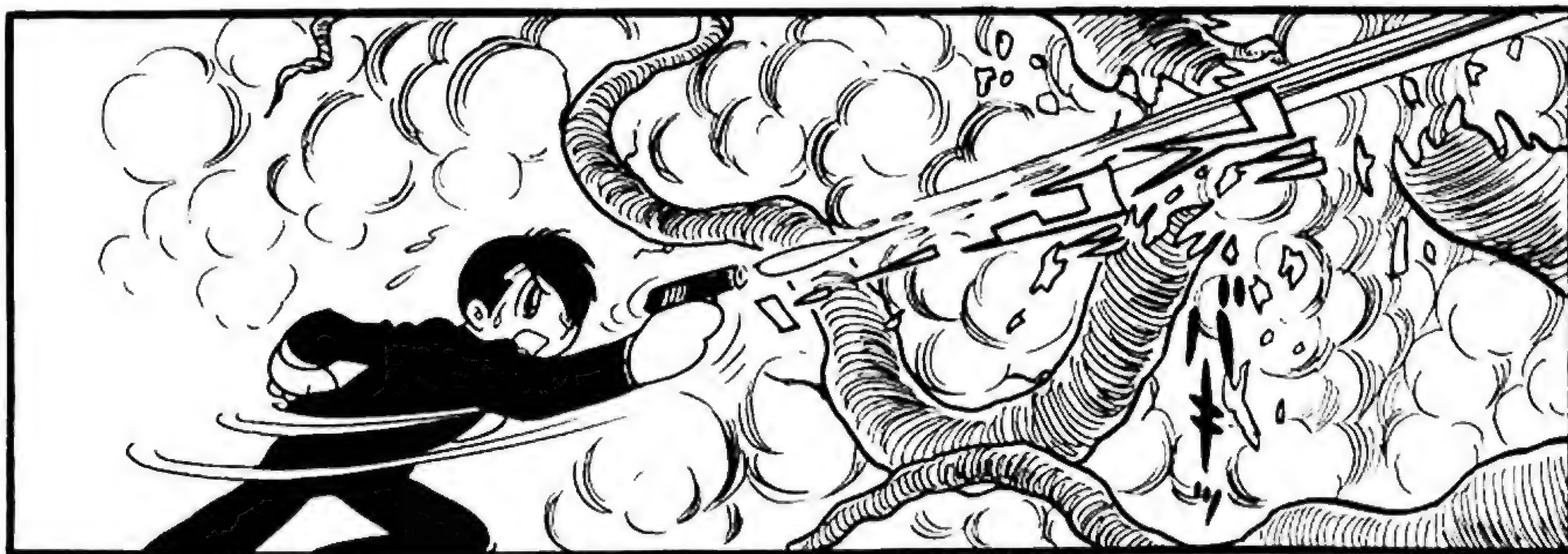

A-AKIRA!


WHAAA

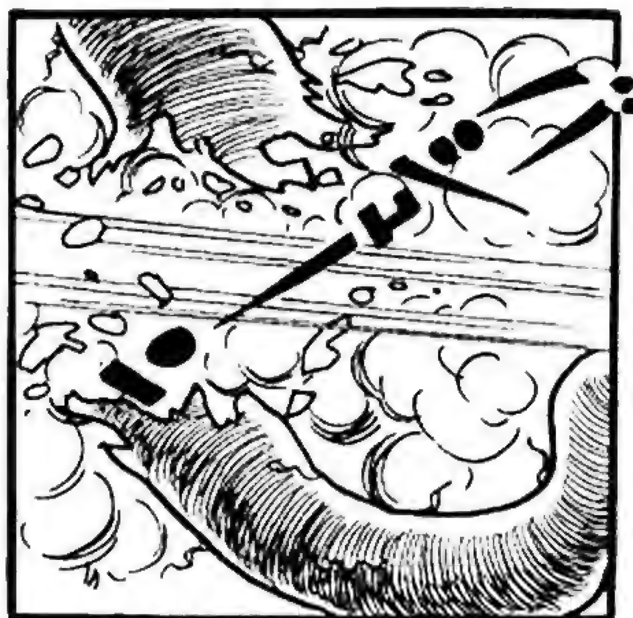

NINA! WHERE ARE YOU?

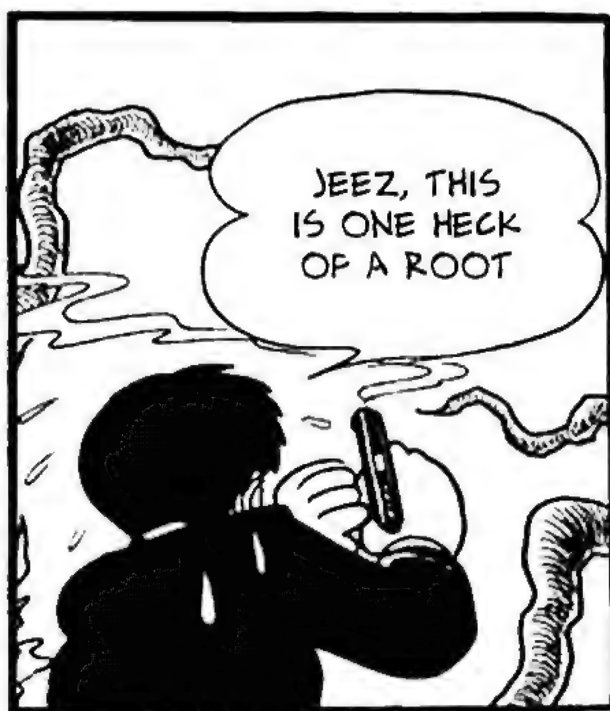

NINA?

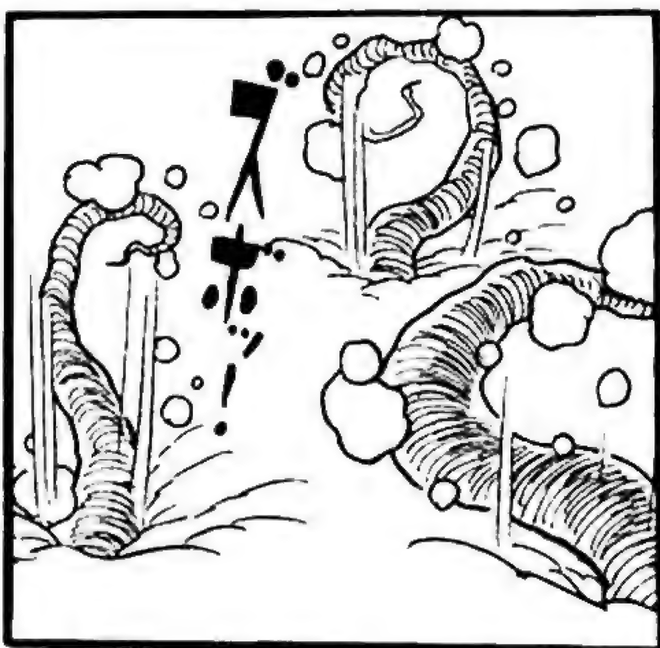

NINA!!




WHEN DID YOU TAKE THE BIG X DRUG YOU CRAZY ROOT?




JEEZ, THIS IS ONE HECK OF A ROOT




AIKIRA!
NINA! ARE YOU HURT?




NINA, IT'S NOT SAFE HERE. GET IN THE CAR

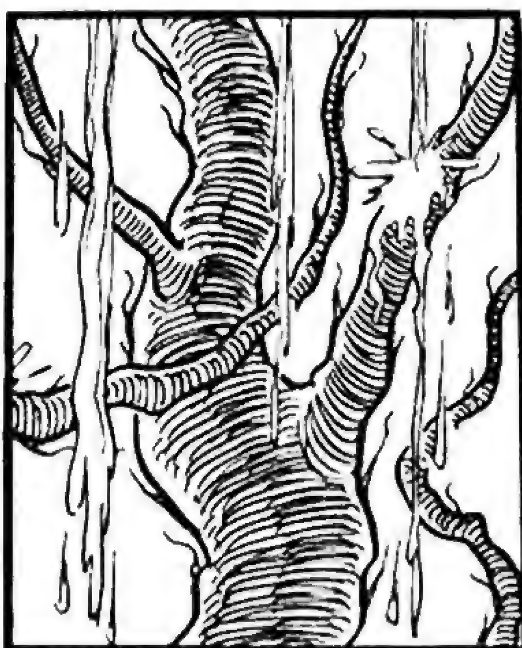

KYAAAHHHH

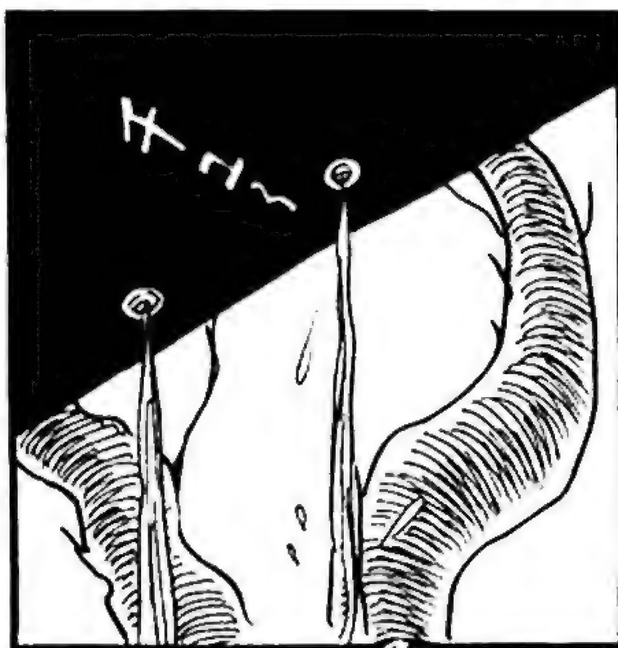

THERE WAS A MAN WHO STOLE THE BIG X DRUG, AND HE SPILLED IT IN THE SNOW
IN THE SNOW ?

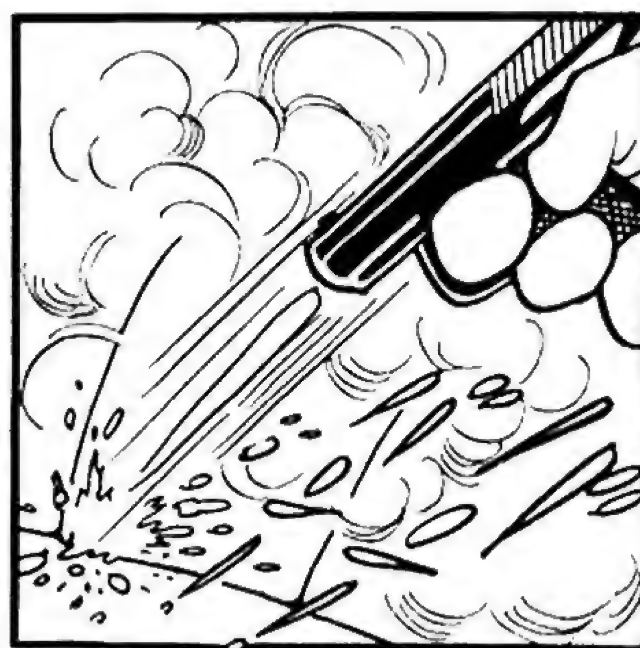

THAT'S WHERE I WAS... LOOKING FOR THE BIG X BOTTLE IN THE SNOW

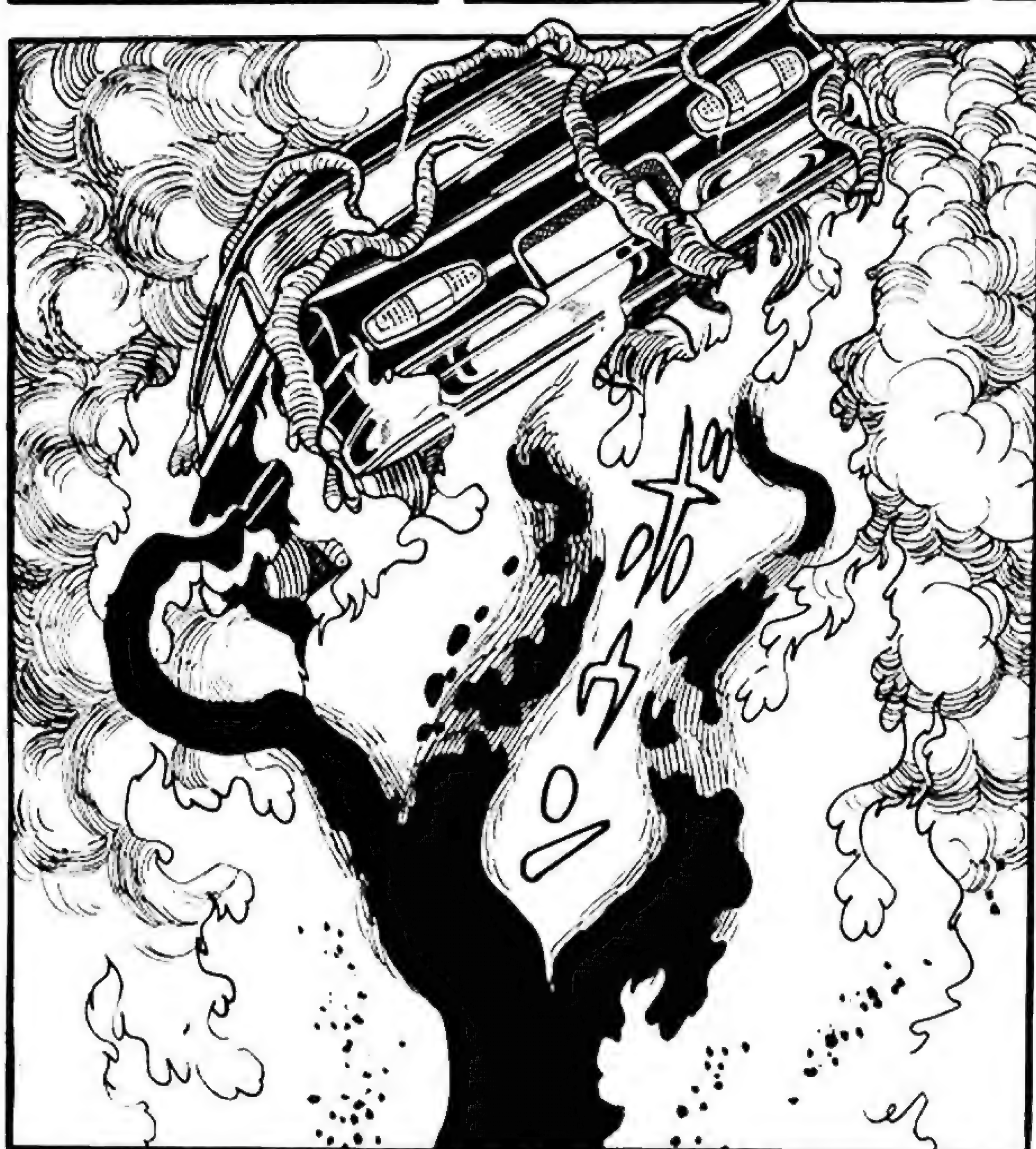


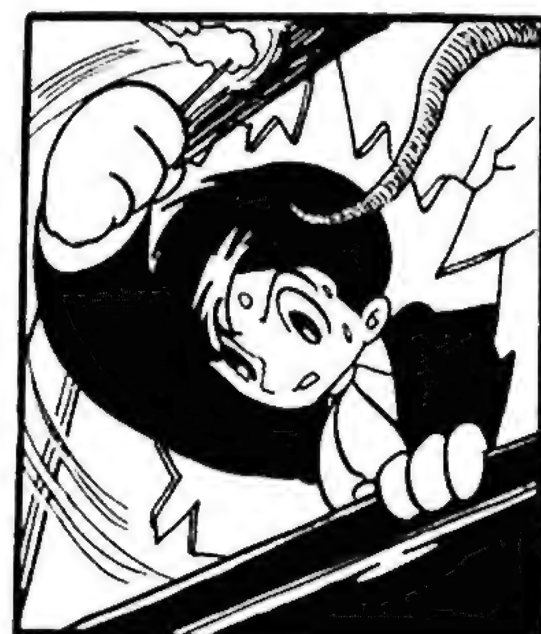

LOOK OUT!
OH NO!

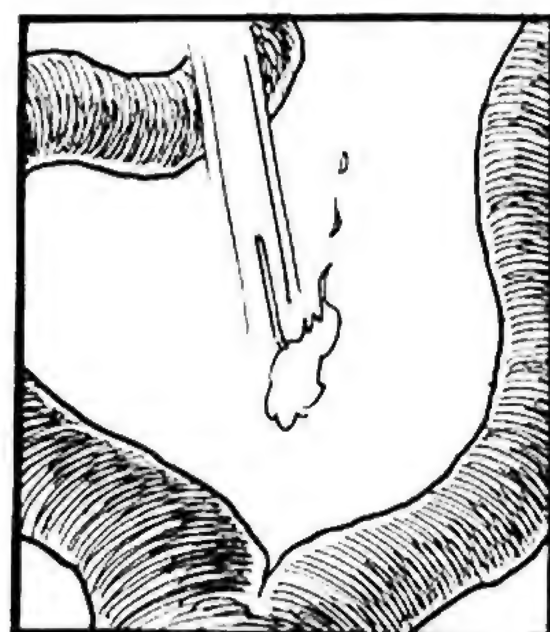















LET'S JUMP






AKIRA, IT'S THERE!


NOT HERE ....

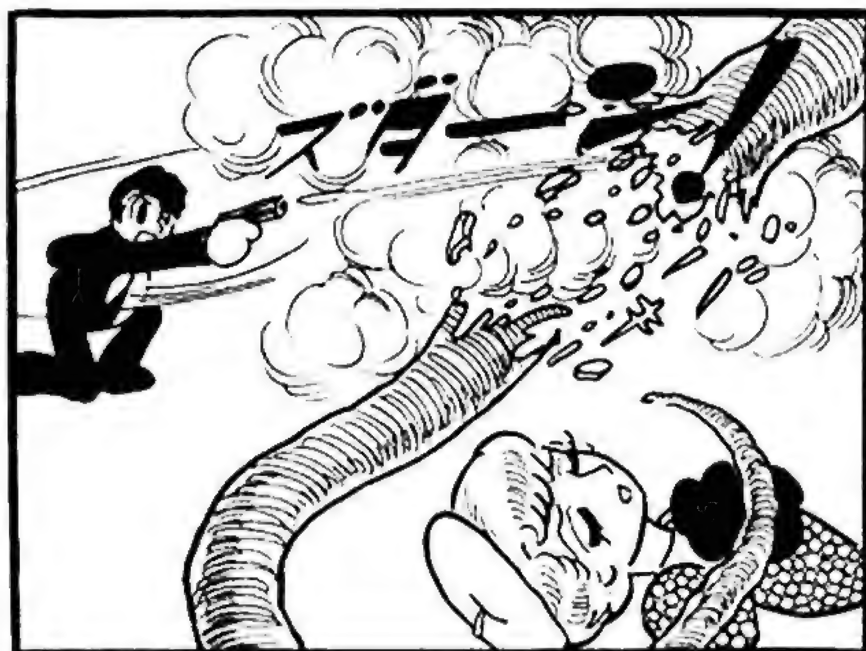

WHERE IS IT...




AAAAAHHHH!!

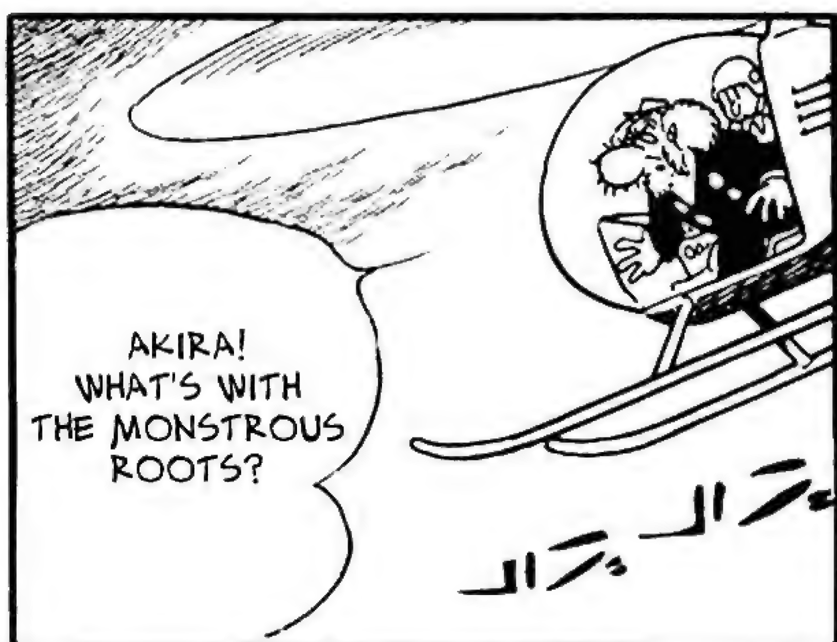



NINA!


ズダーン!

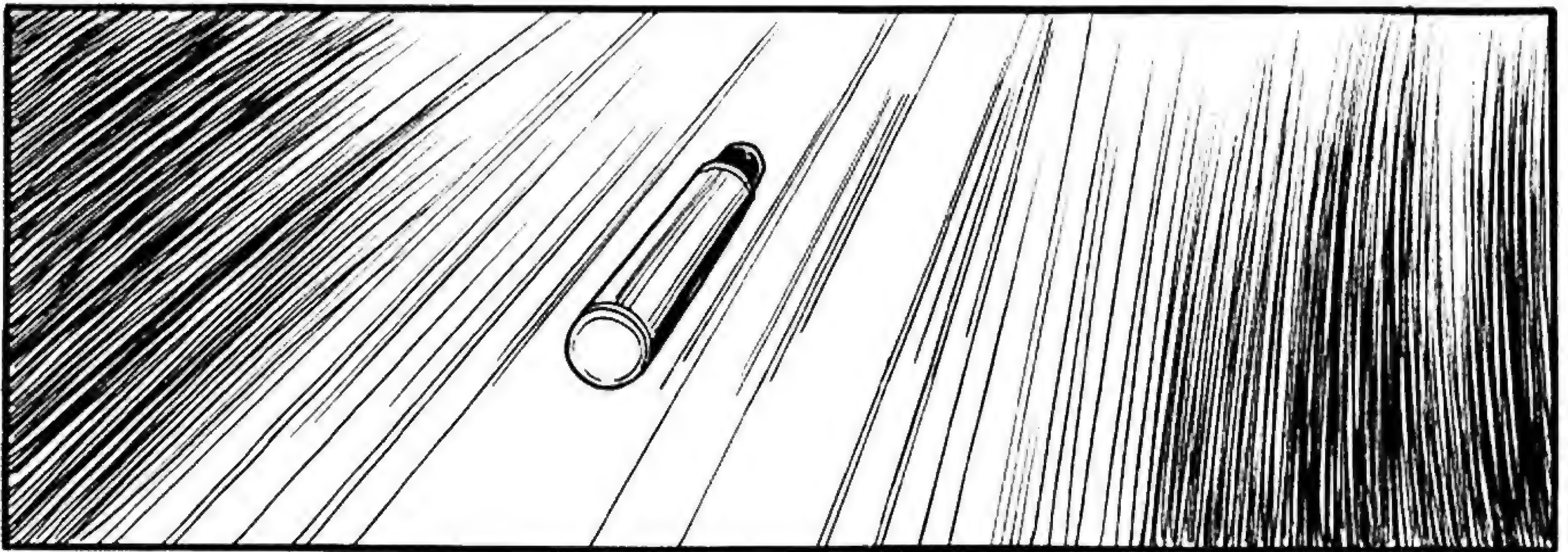



AH! A HELICOPTER!


AKIRA! WHAT'S WITH THE MONSTROUS ROOTS?



FIRE THE FLARES INTO THE GROUND!




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THE SNOW! IT'S MELTING!

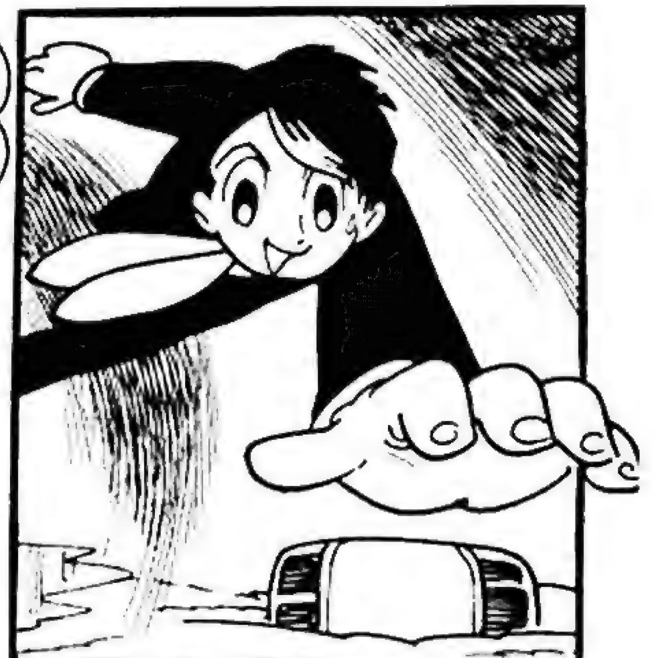

ジュ〜〜ッ


OH MY GOD! THERE IT IS!






JUST IN TIME

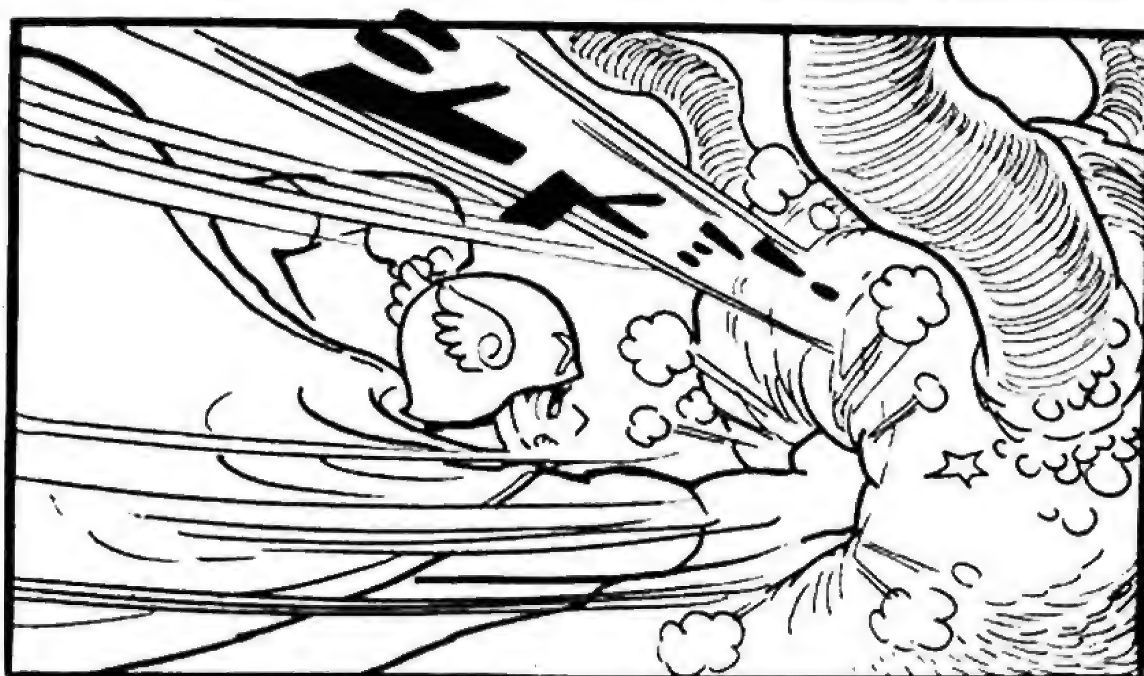



COME ON,
YOU MONSTER!






UGH!!




YAHHH


AHAA

TAKE THAT!



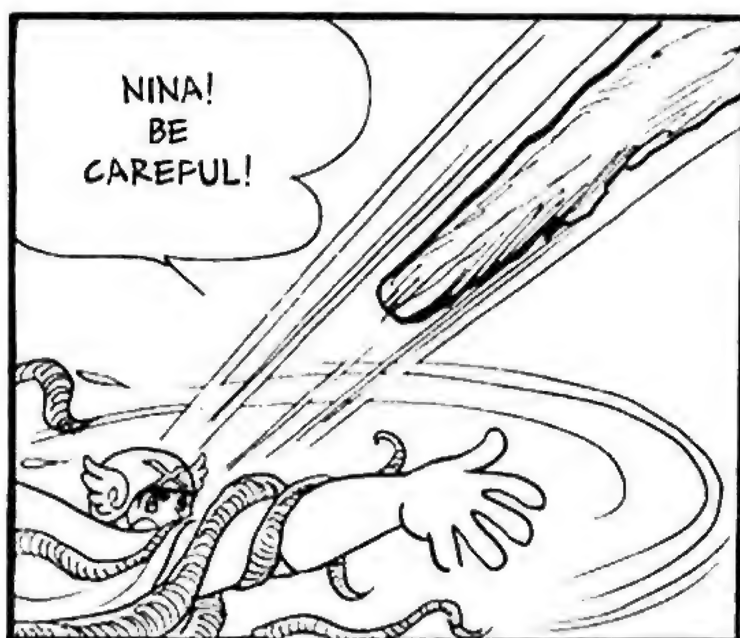


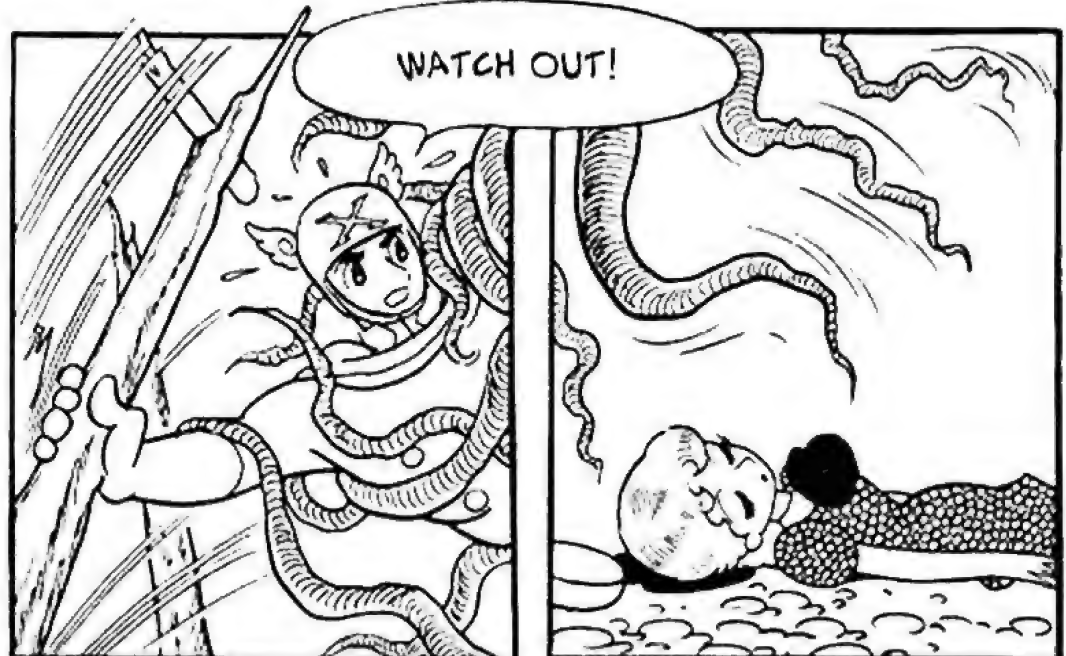


OKAY, HERE WE GO

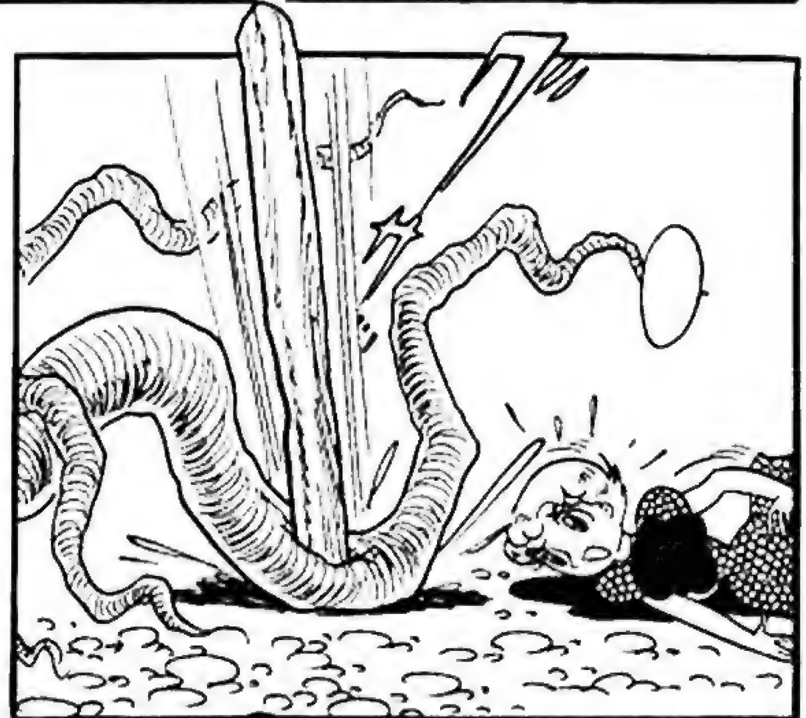
I'LL FIGHT YOU FOR ALL I'M WORTH

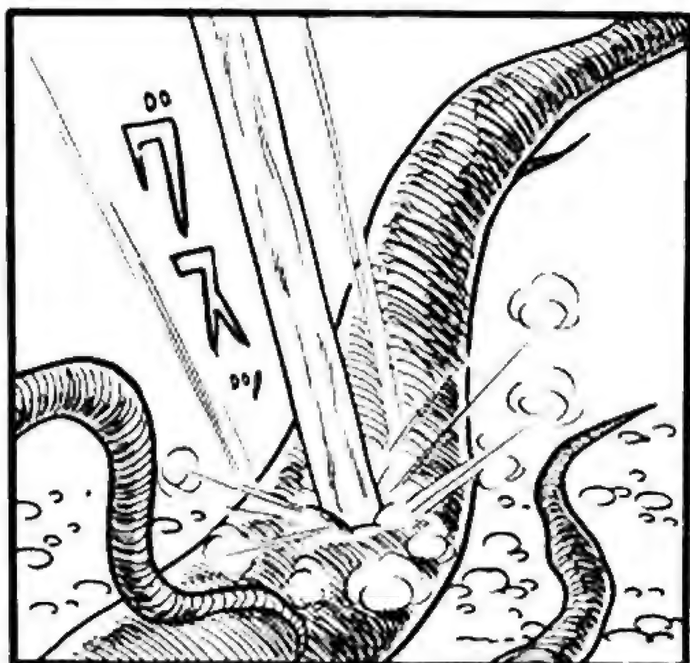
WHAT THE HELL, YA STUBBORN BASTARD!

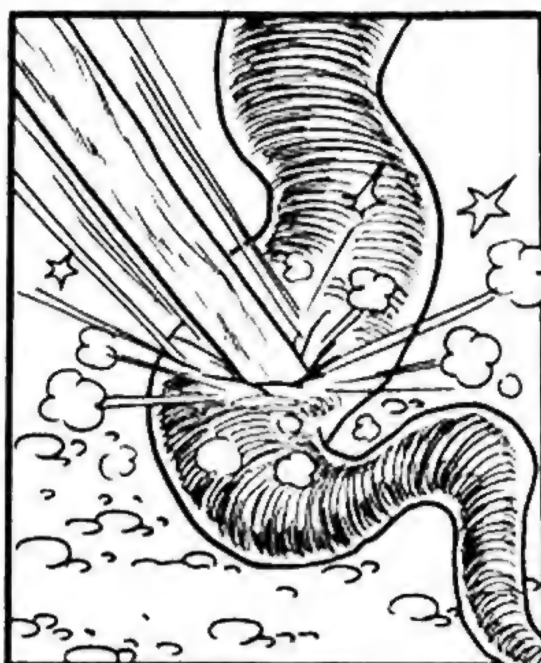


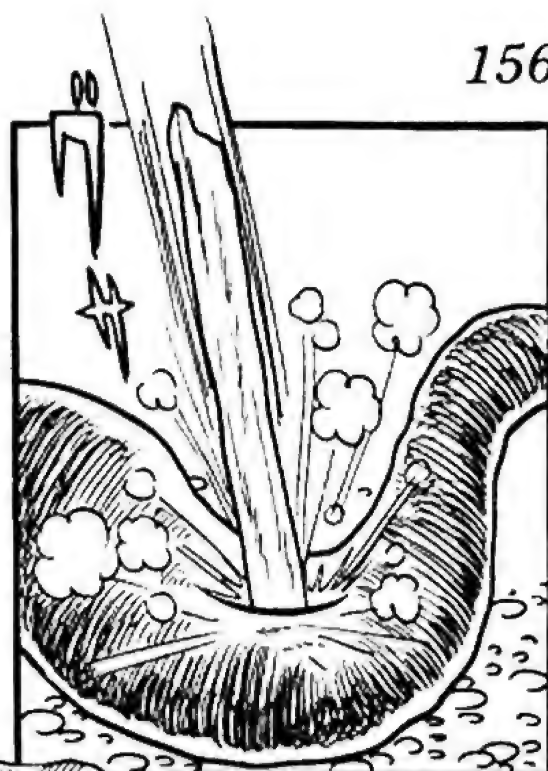


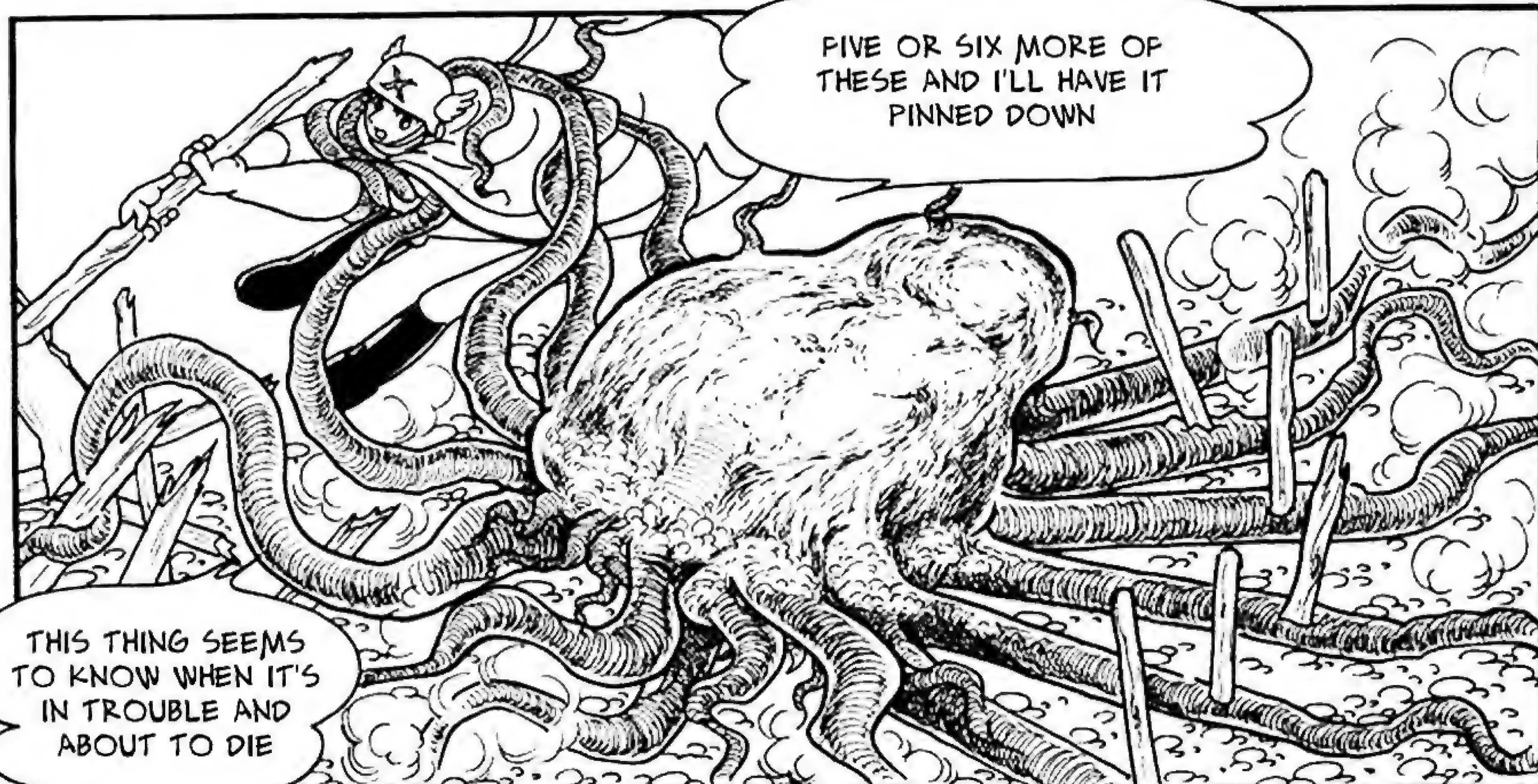




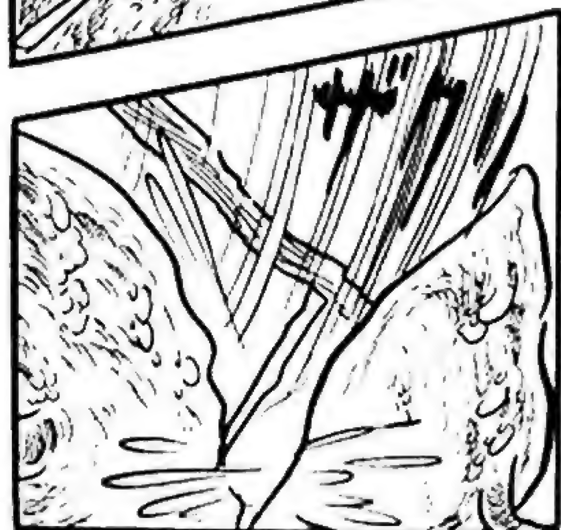







FIVE OR SIX MORE OF THESE AND I'LL HAVE IT PINNED DOWN
THIS THING SEEMS TO KNOW WHEN IT'S IN TROUBLE AND ABOUT TO DIE



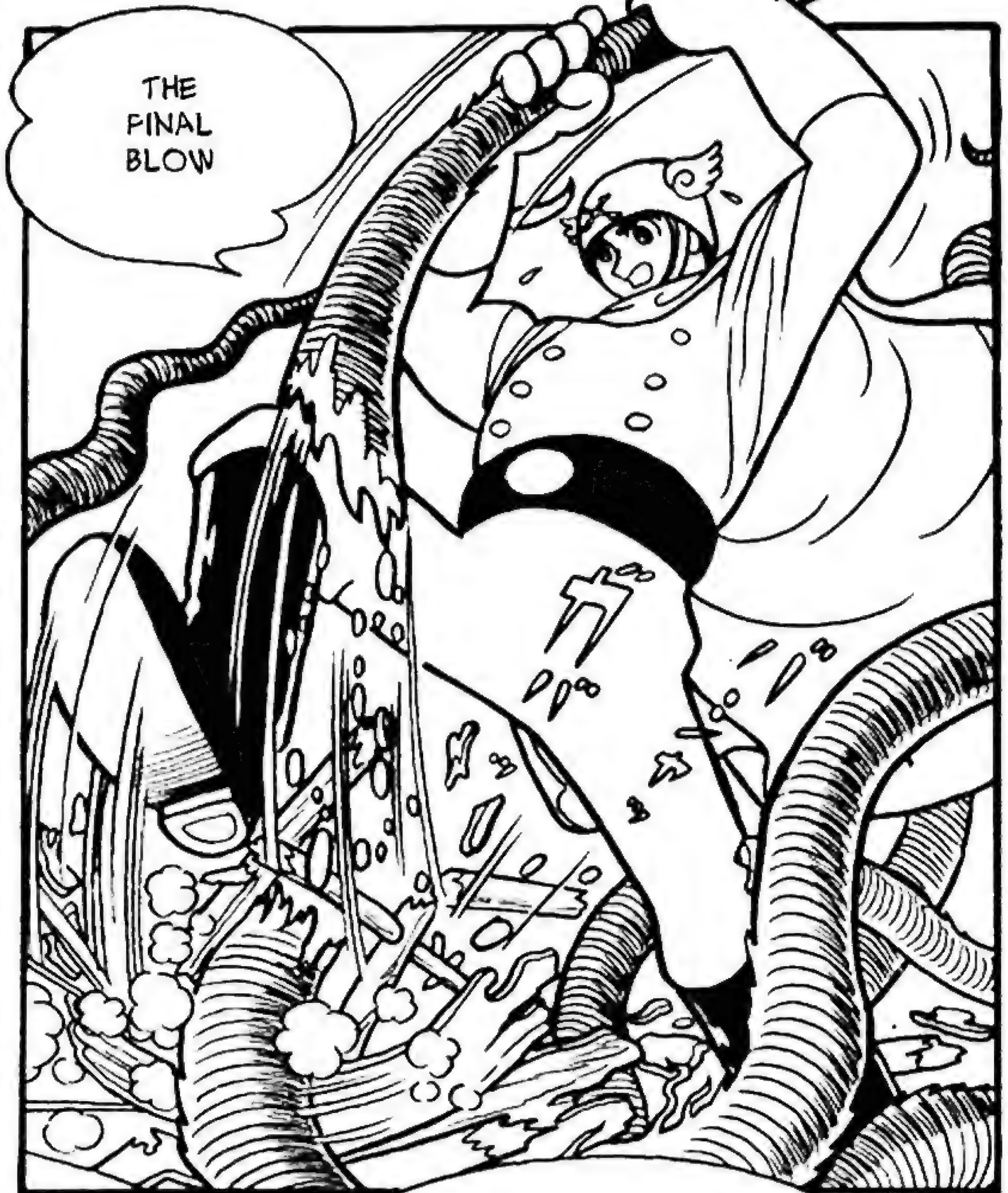





ACK!


I'LL GET YOU!



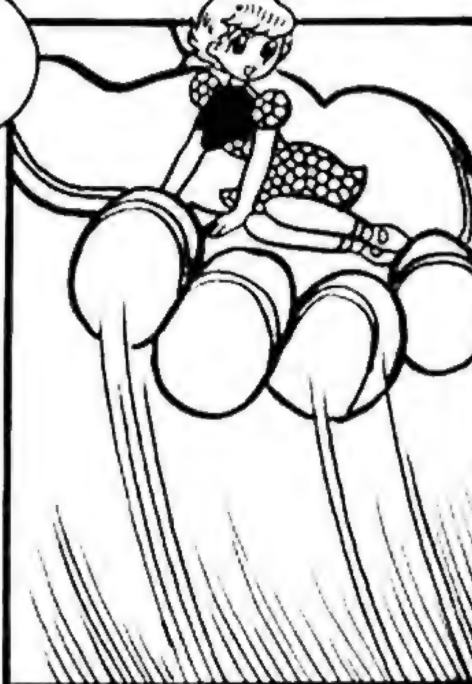

THE FINAL BLOW
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PHEW... I GOT IT!


I DIDN'T KNOW YOU COULD GET THAT BIG!


THANK YOU DOCTOR FOR THE FLARE! THAT HELPED ME FIND THE BIG X DRUG IN THE SNOW


ARE YOU OKAY?
I'M FINE, BUT I MIGHT FREAK OUT WHEN I SEE POTATOES AGAIN




COME ON NINA


IT LOOKS LIKE THERE'S A FIRE IN THE NEXT VILLAGE
IT LOOKS BAD!


HUH?


OH!




I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT


OH MY GOD!




AH!


HUH?
WHAT COULD HAVE CAUSED SUCH A MESS?
UM
OH NO! ARE THE ROOTS HERE TOO?
YEAH .....
IT'S THE ROOTS, AND THEY'VE INFILTRATED THIS PLACE
YOU'LL HAVE TO DESTROY THE WHOLE THING. IF YOU LEAVE IT THEY'LL END UP WITH IT ALL OVER THEIR COUNTRY
DR. BURP, EVERY SINGLE PERSON IN THIS VILLAGE HAS DIED BECAUSE OF THE ROOTS
I KNEW IT... HOW AWFUL

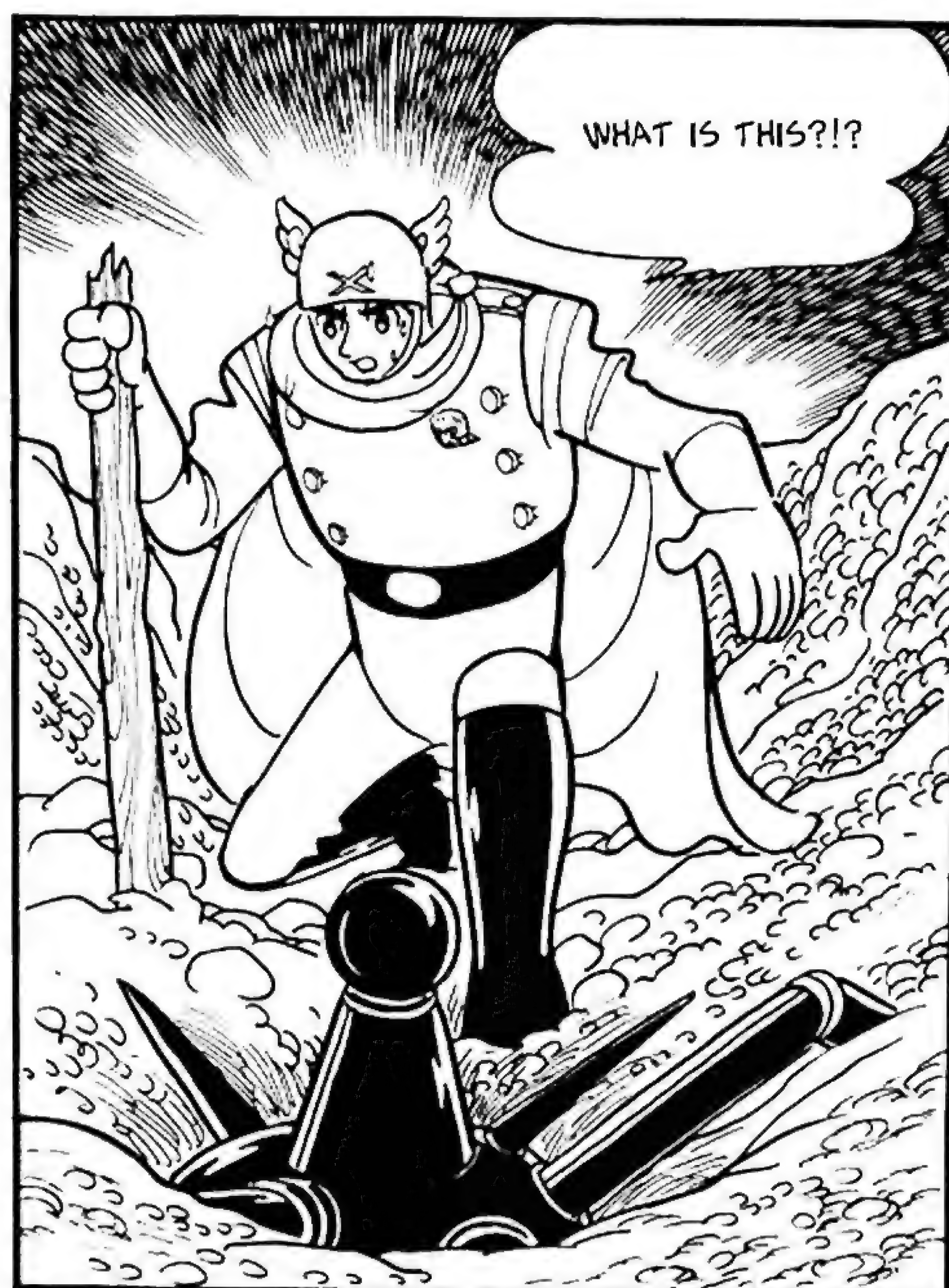

IF YOU DON'T DIG UP THE UNDERGROUND AND THOROUGHLY REMOVE THE ROOTS, IT WILL KEEP GROWING BACK

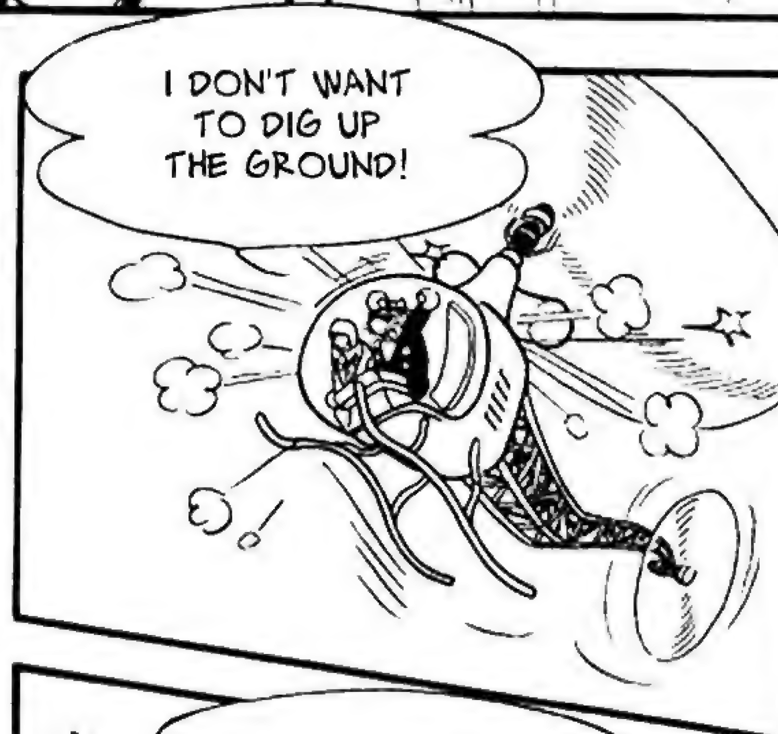

I WANT TO SEND IN THE ARMY RIGHT AWAY AND HAVE IT BURNED


BUT DR, IF YOU DON'T DIG UNDERGROUND, YOU'LL NEVER GET RID OF IT


NO, NO, NO! I WON'T ALLOW IT!

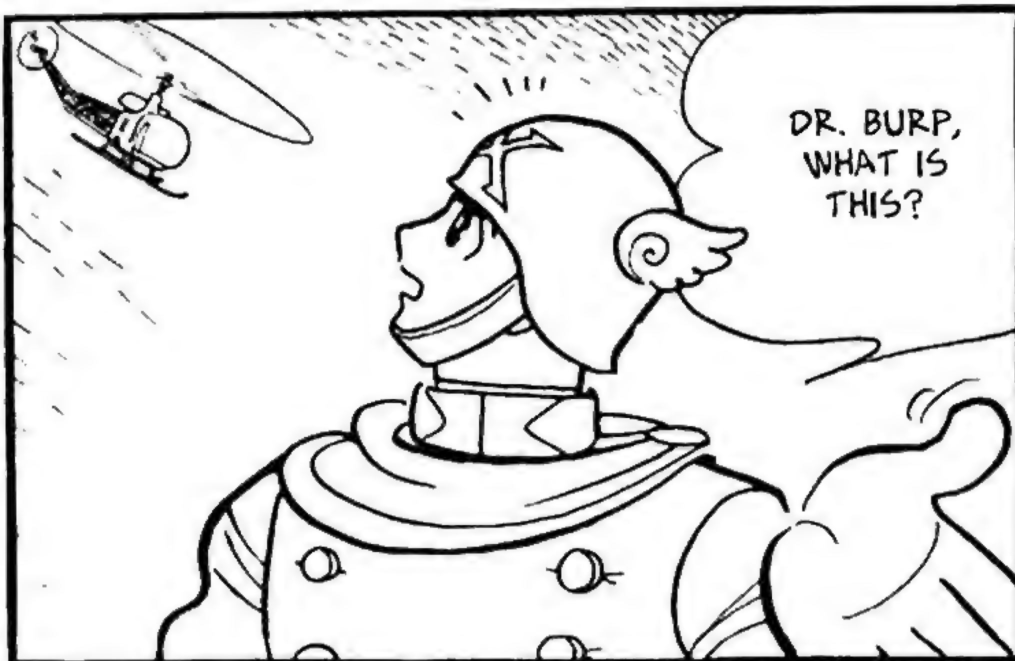

YOU WANT ME TO DIG UP THE WHOLE PLACE??


WHAT IS THIS?!?


I DON'T WANT TO DIG UP THE GROUND!

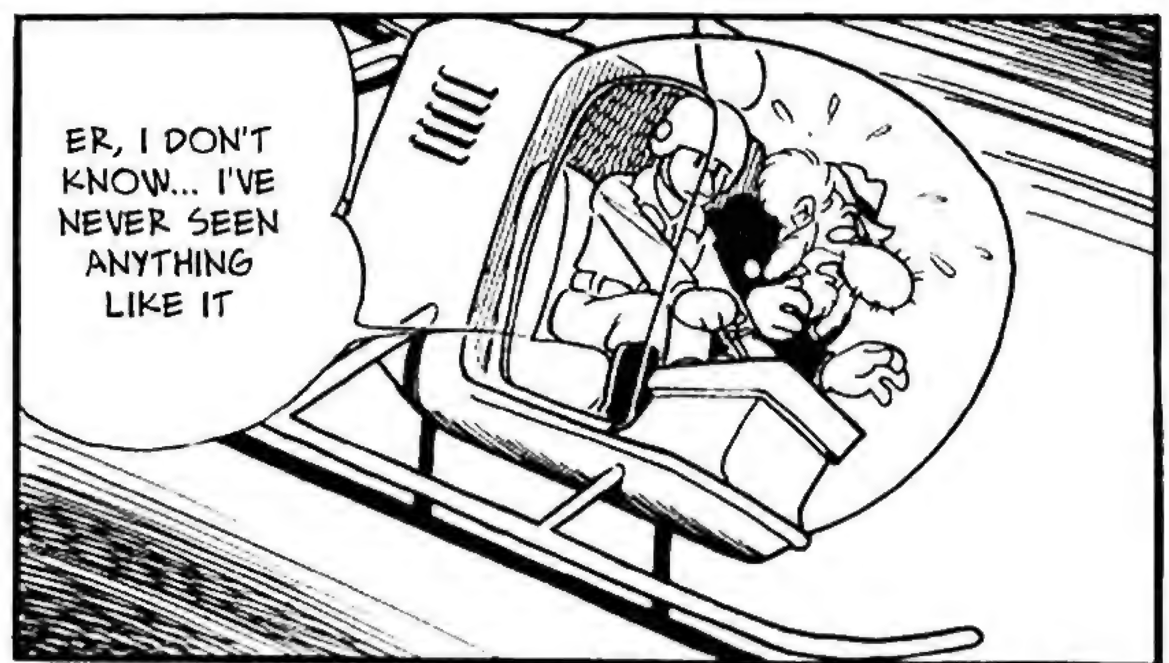

WELL, NO MATTER WHAT I'LL DO A QUICK CHECK




DR. BURP, WHAT IS THIS?


HMM, IT'S TOO BIG FOR THAT. A HUMAN COULD EASILY FIT IN THERE
IT'S SOME TYPE OF METAL OBJECT MAYBE A WATER PIPE?

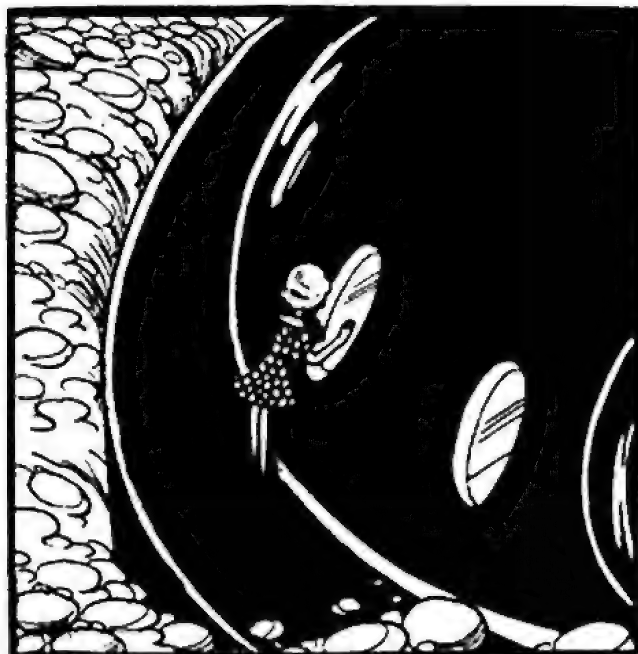

AKIRA, LET ME DOWN

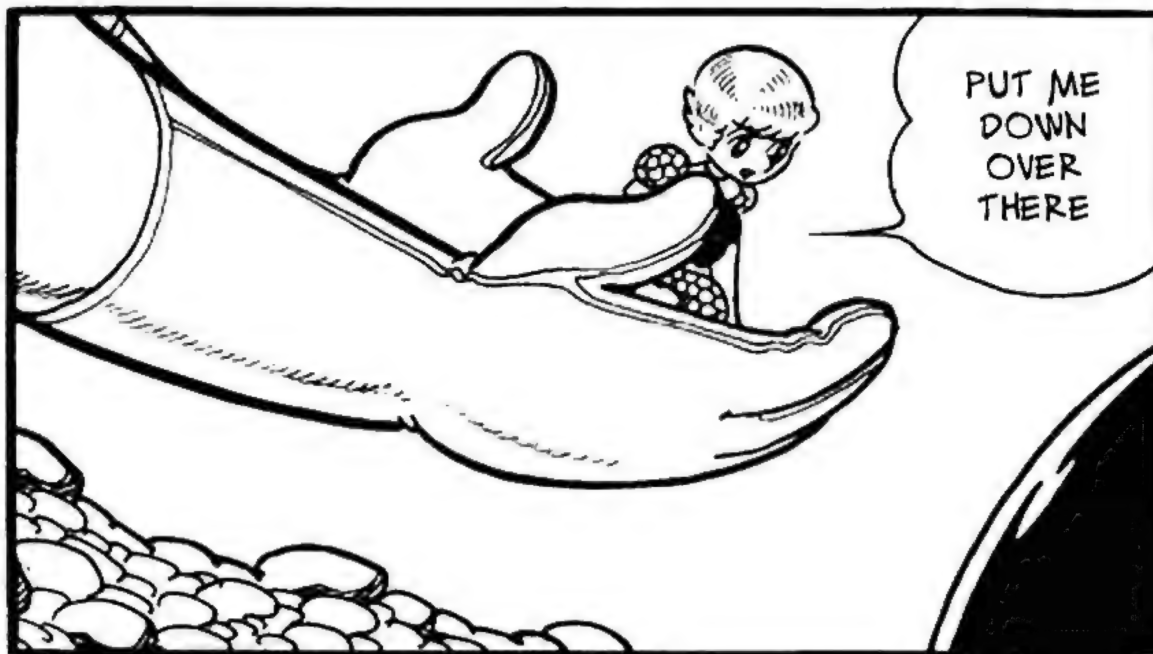

ER, I DON'T KNOW... I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT


LOOK OVER THERE. DOESN'T IT LOOK LIKE IT HAS WINDOWS?

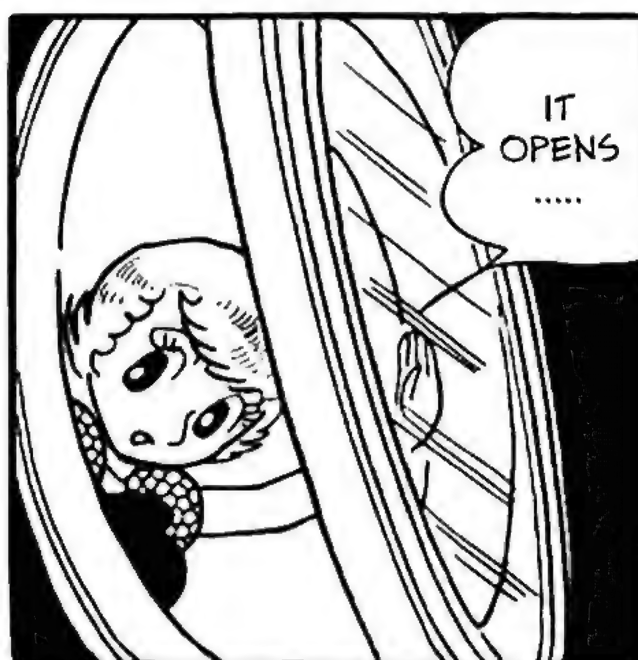

I'M GOING TO TRY AND GET IN THERE


WHAT'S UP?




PUT ME DOWN OVER THERE

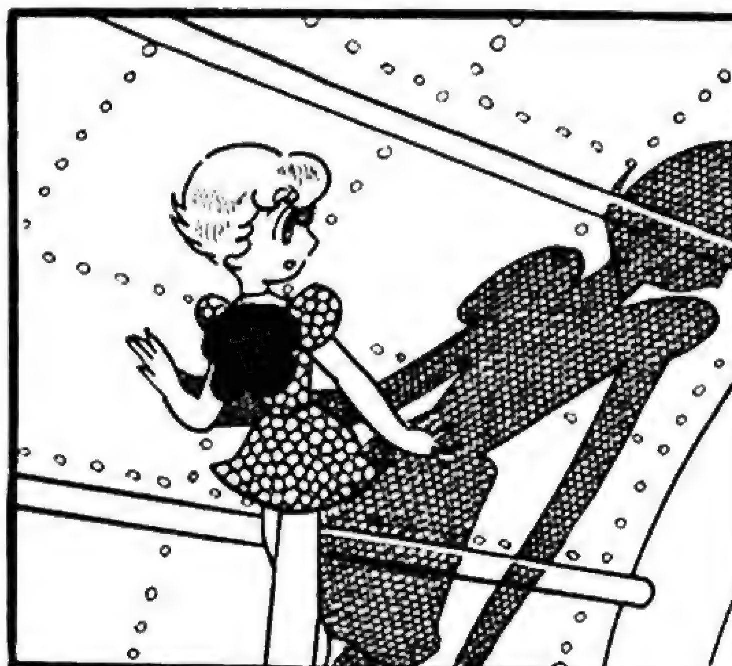

NINA!


IT OPENS .....

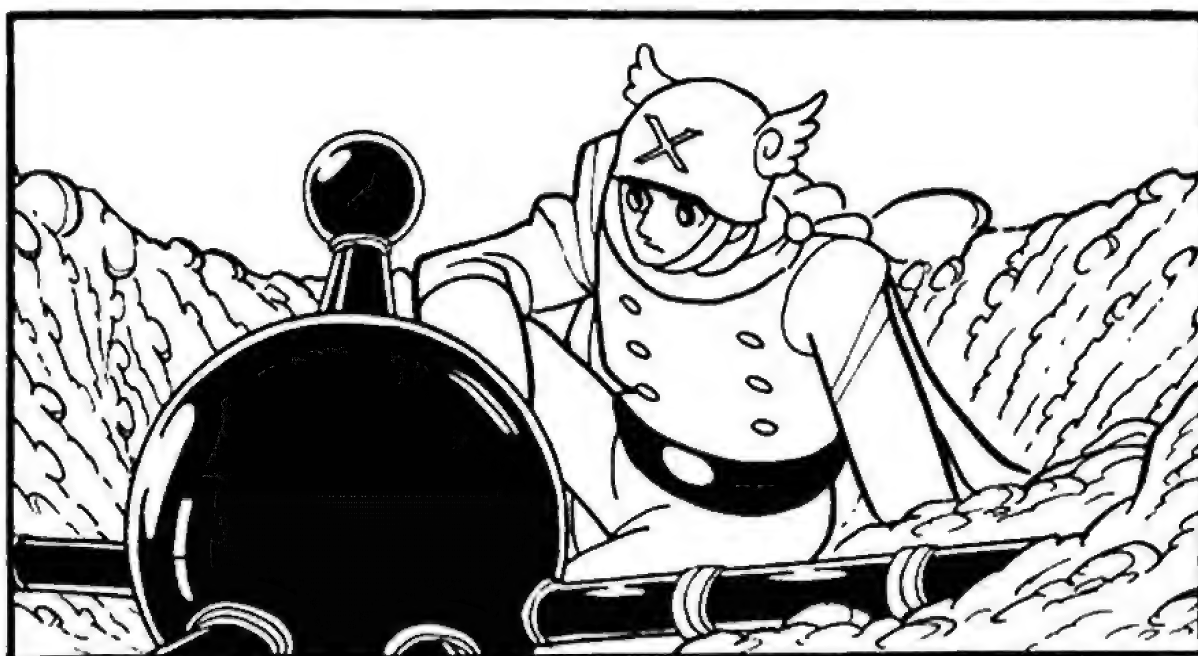

IT'S LIKE THERE'S A HALLWAY INSIDE... WEIRD!


MMMMMMMFFFF


I KNEW IT. IT'S A HALLWAY. THERE MUST BE SOME-THING DOWN HERE... LIKE A BASEMENT




NINA?




SOMETHING MUST'VE HAPPENED TO HER IN THERE


WEIRD


HEY NINA, WHERE DID YOU GO?



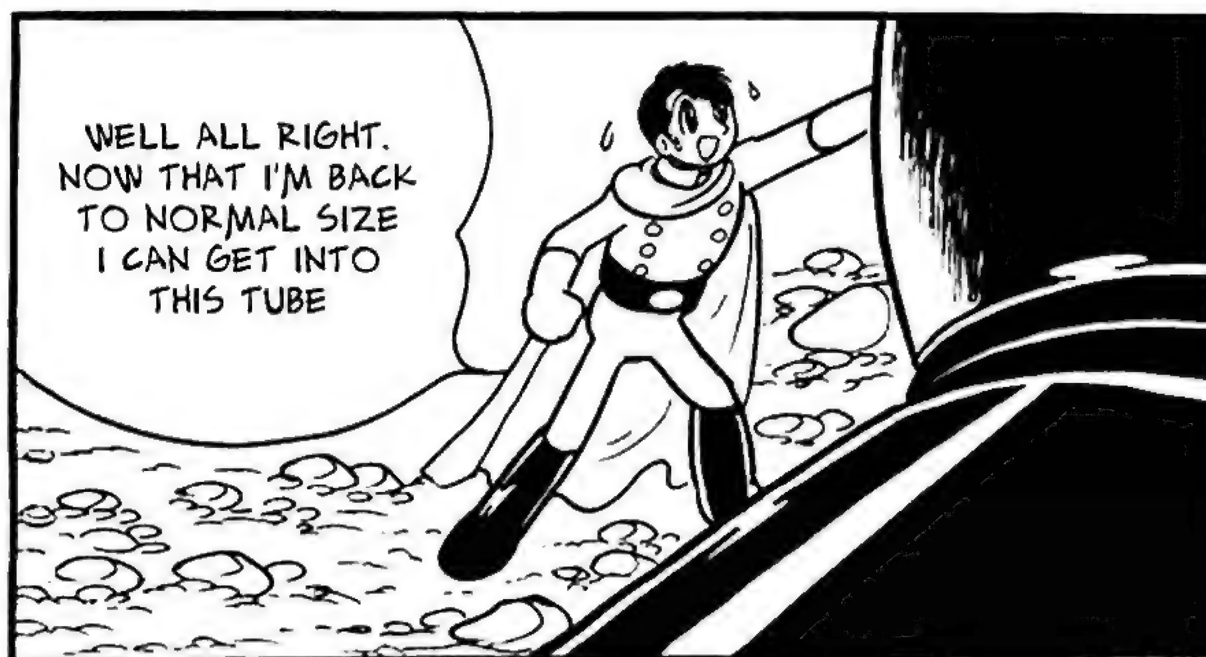

WEIRD... DR. BURP'S HELICOPTER WAS GONE BEFORE I KNEW IT

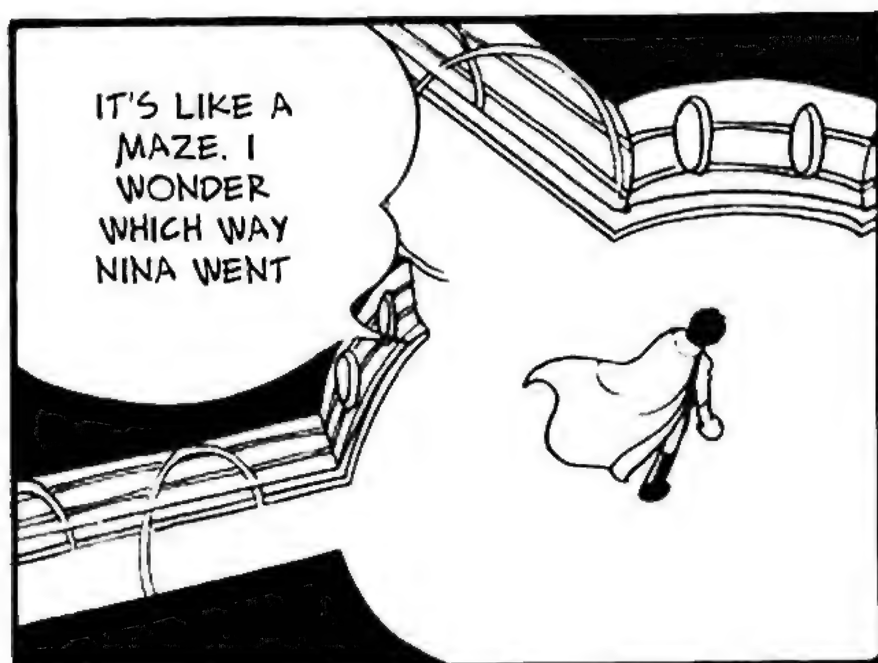

PHEW

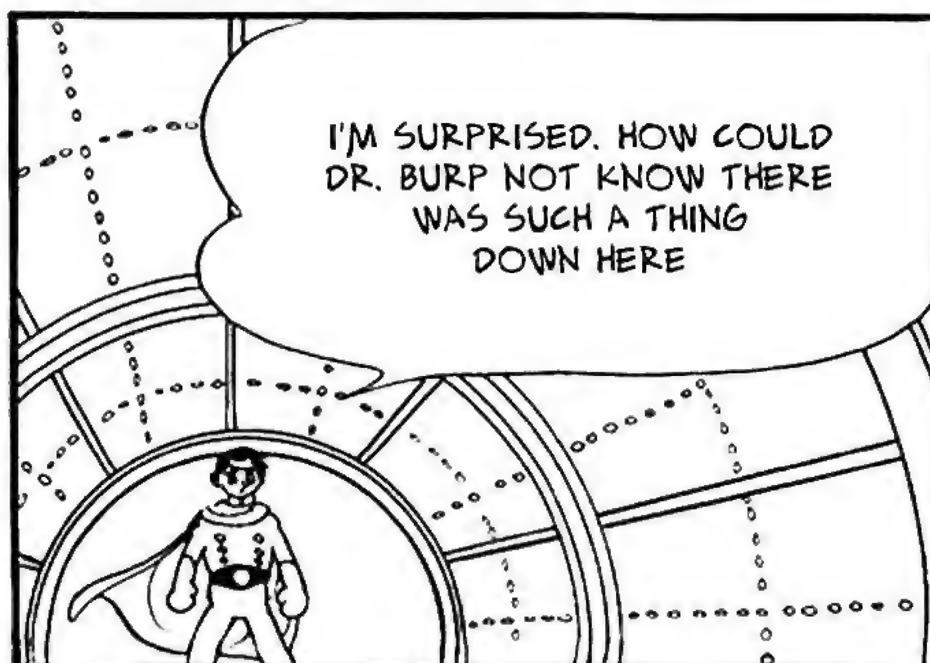





I NEED TO TRACK NINA DOWN


WELL ALL RIGHT. NOW THAT I'M BACK TO NORMAL SIZE I CAN GET INTO THIS TUBE

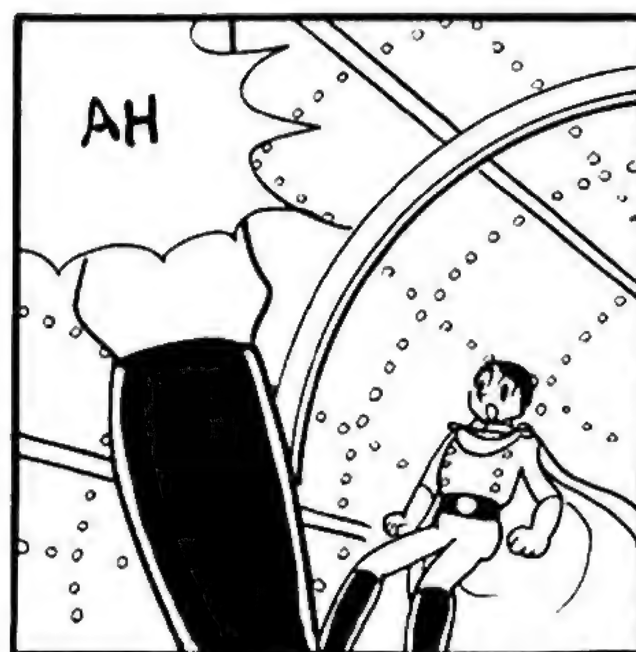

IT'S LIKE A MAZE. I WONDER WHICH WAY NINA WENT


I'M SURPRISED. HOW COULD DR. BURP NOT KNOW THERE WAS SUCH A THING DOWN HERE


NINA? WHERE ARE YOU?


AKIRAAA..


NINA! NINA!

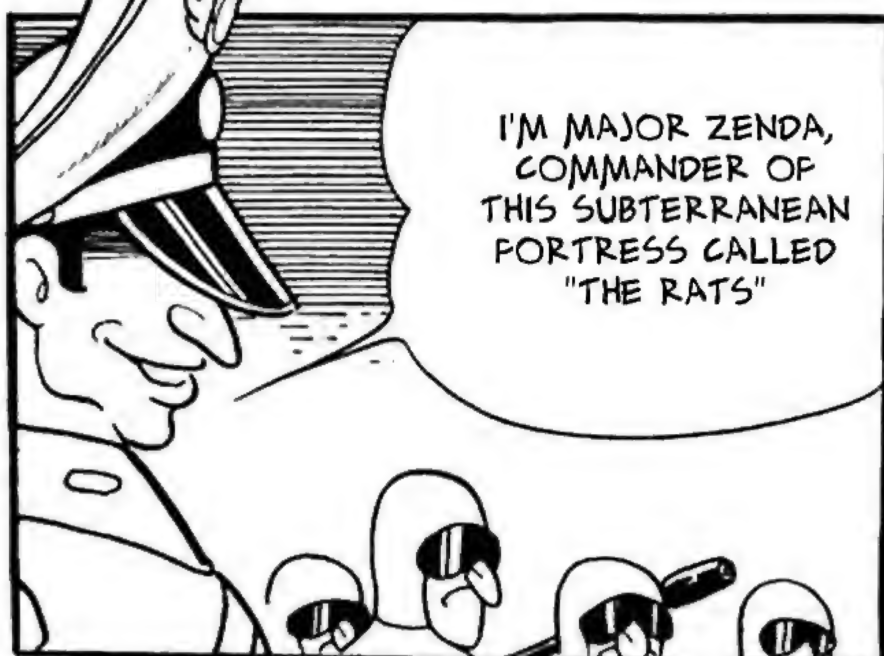

AH


NINA..


THAT WAS A SCREAM. I KNEW SOMETHING WAS WRONG!


HEH HEH HEH
I WAS EXPECTING YOU TO COME TO NINA'S RESCUE


WHAT? YOU GUYS ARE...
AKIRA, WELCOME


I'M MAJOR ZENDA, COMMANDER OF THIS SUBTERRANEAN FORTRESS CALLED "THE RATS"

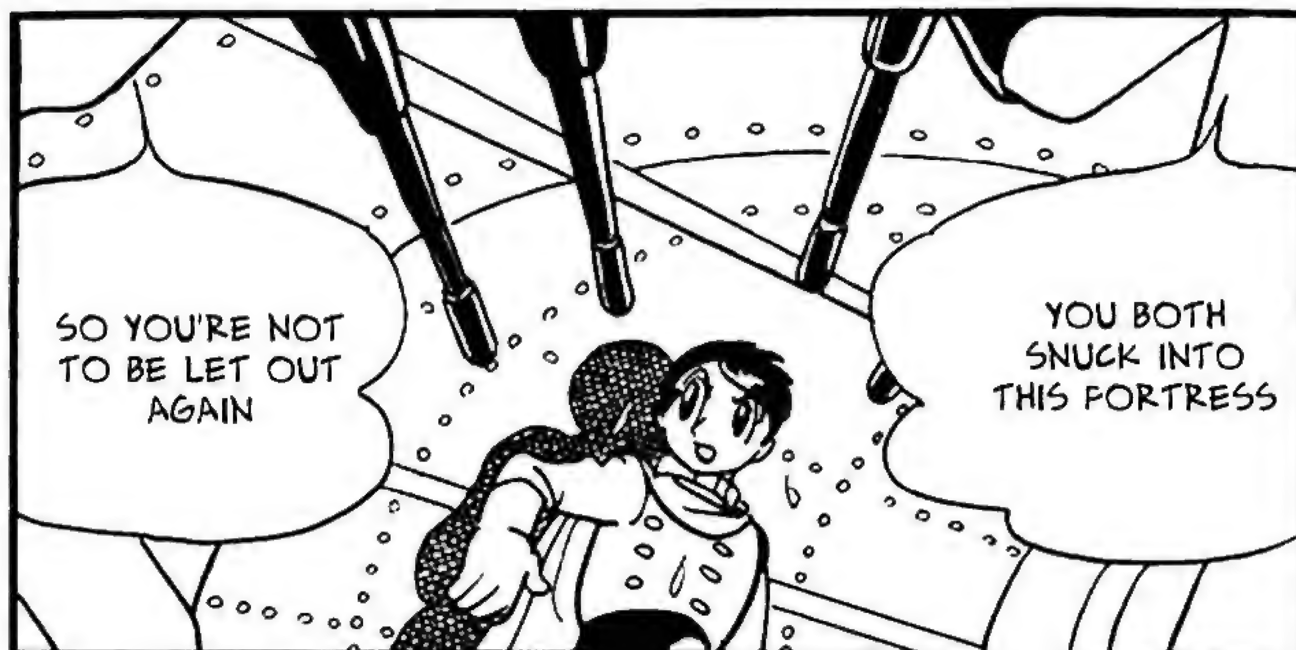

UNDER-GROUND FORTRESS
WHAT IS "THE RATS"?


THIS IS A SECRET FORTRESS FOR THE REPUBLIC OF GALEA


YOU'RE VERY LUCKY TO HAVE FOUND ONE OF THESE.. OR MAYBE I SHOULD SAY "UNLUCKY"


YOU'RE THE ONES WHO TOOK NINA AWAY. GIVE HER BACK... GET HER BACK HERE NOW!

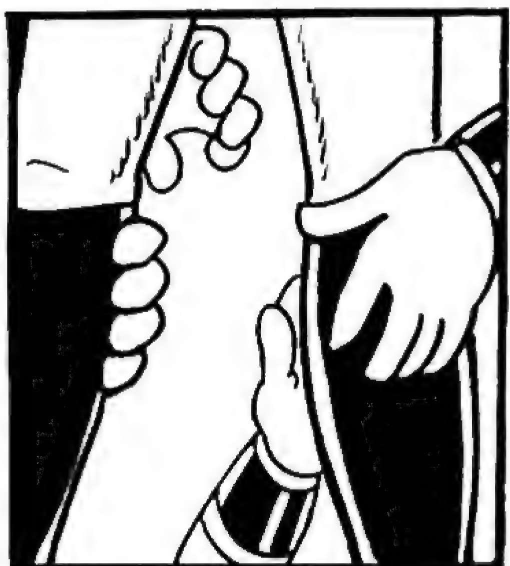

I'LL LET YOU SEE HER IF YOU WISH

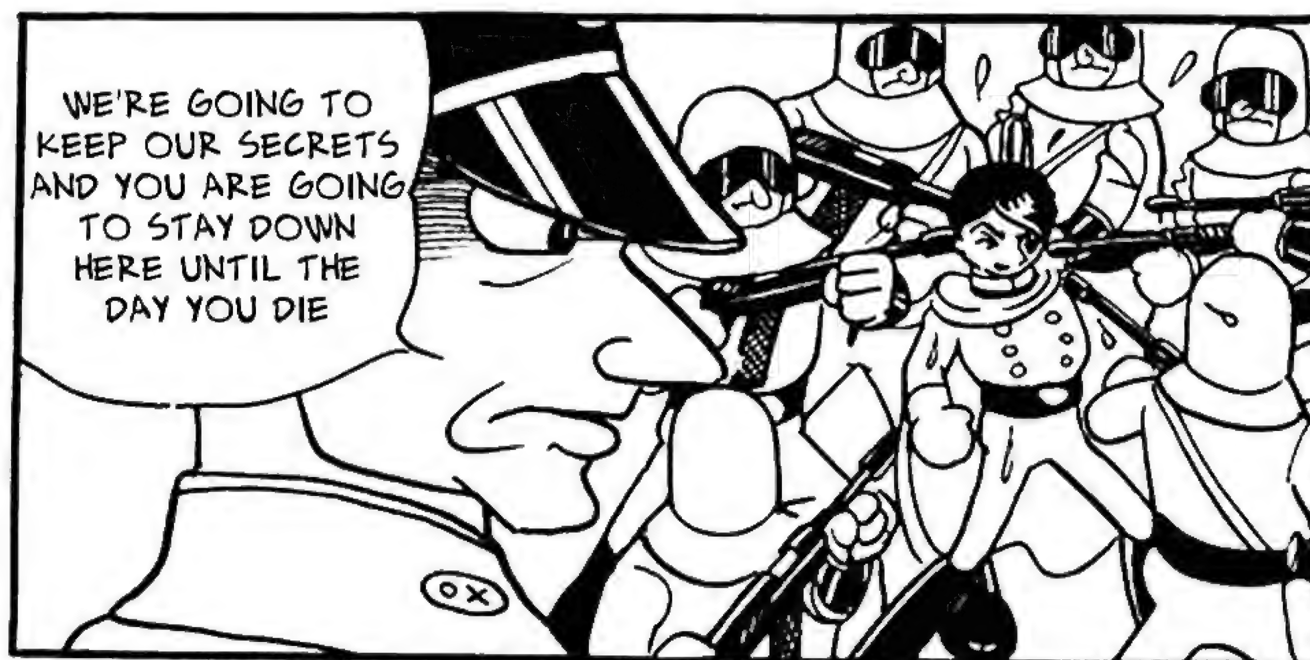

YOU BOTH SNUCK INTO THIS FORTRESS
SO YOU'RE NOT TO BE LET OUT AGAIN

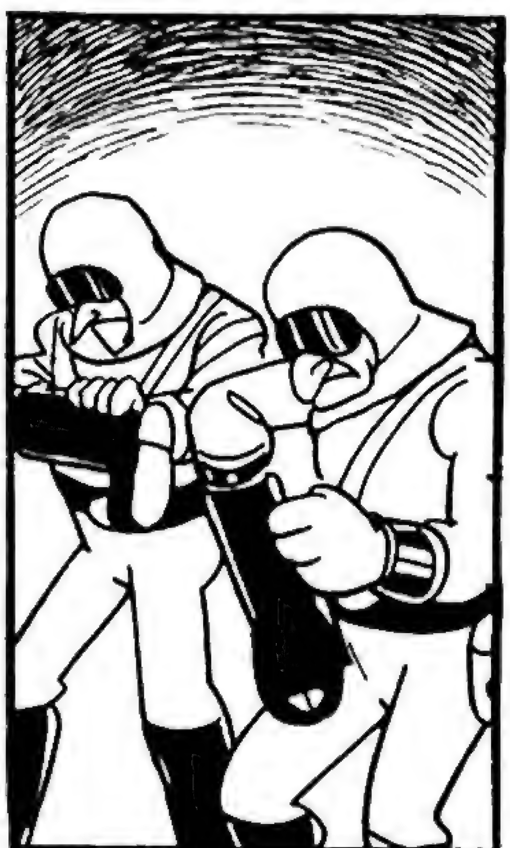

YOU AND NINA ARE INTRUDERS

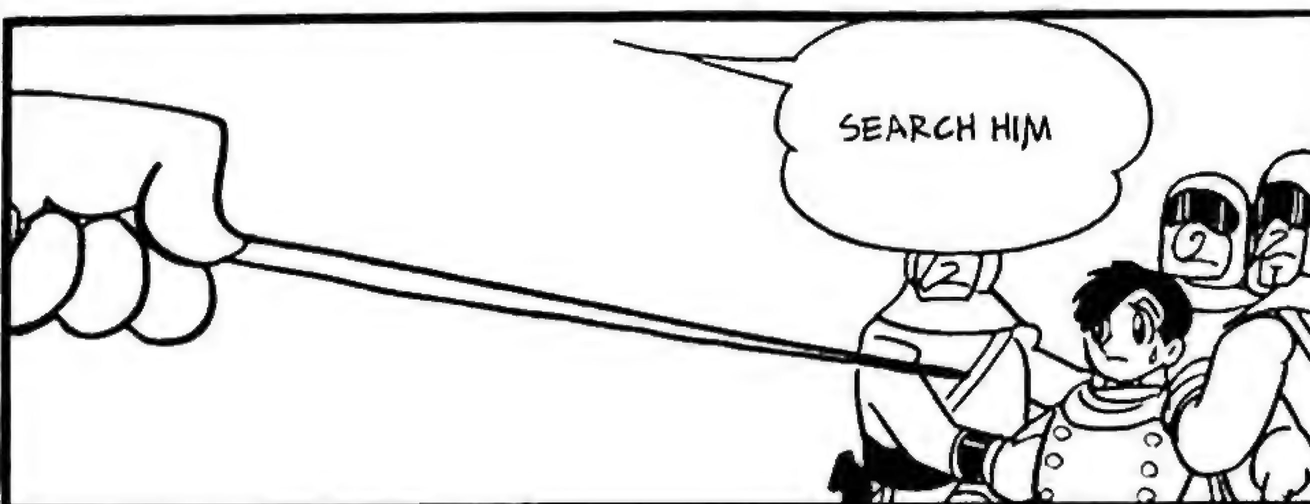



TAKE HIM

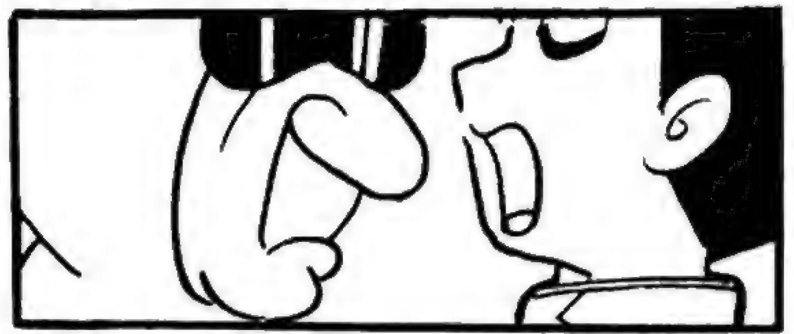


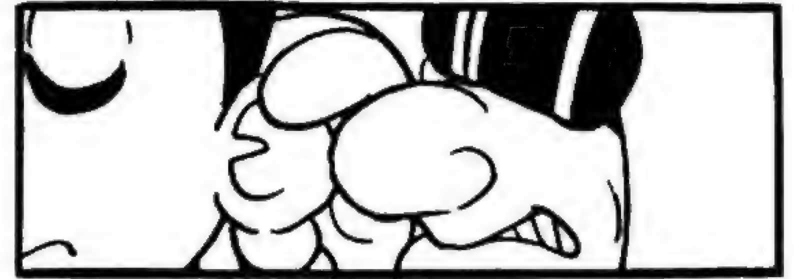

WE'RE GOING TO KEEP OUR SECRETS AND YOU ARE GOING TO STAY DOWN HERE UNTIL THE DAY YOU DIE




SEARCH HIM

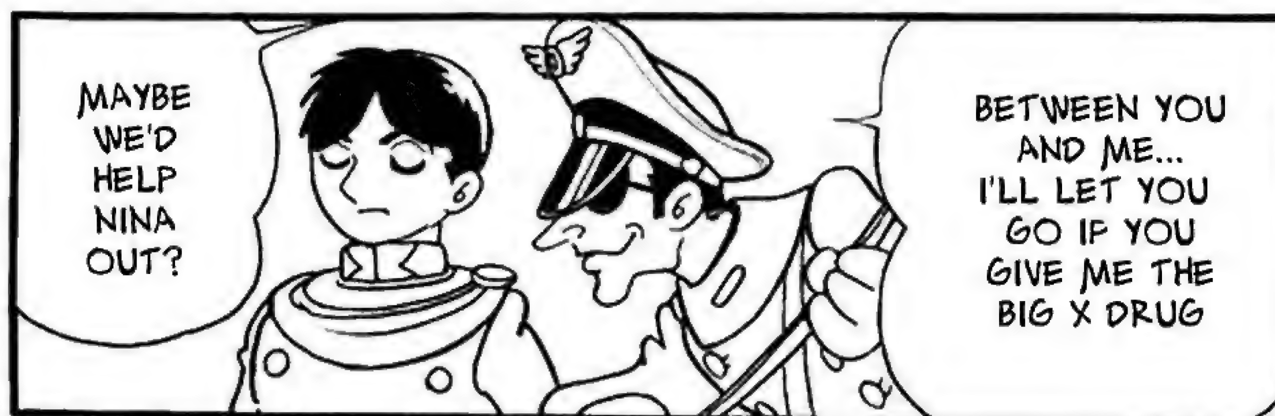

HE'S GOT NOTHING!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN "NOTHING"?

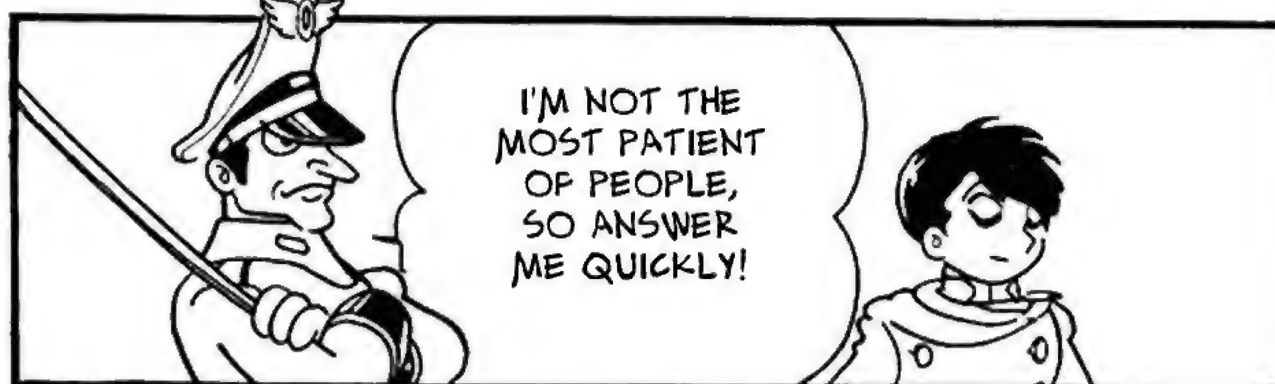





WHERE IS IT?

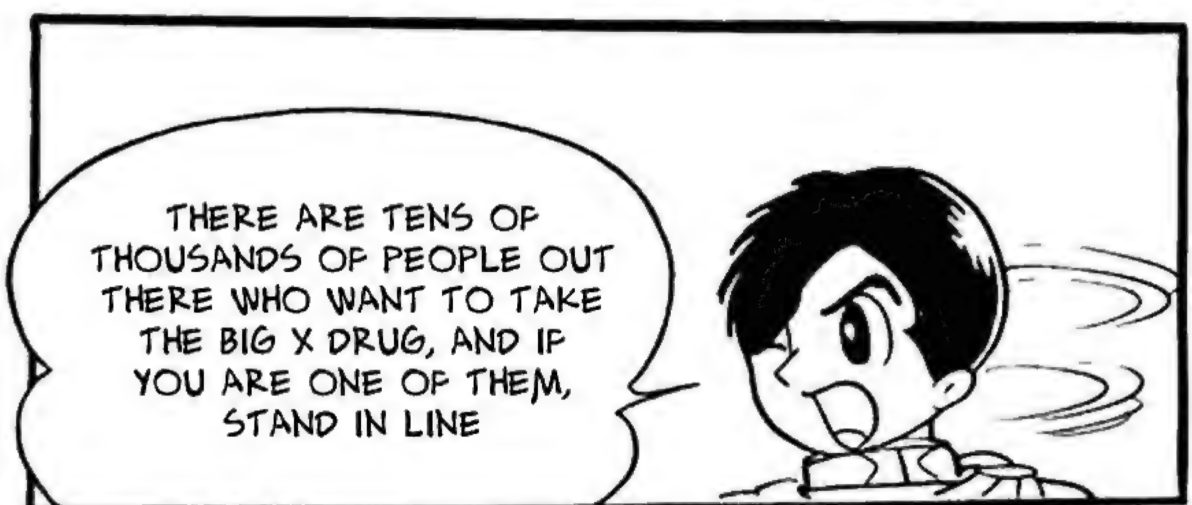

YOU MUST HAVE THE BIG X DRUG ON YOU, RIGHT?
DON'T YOU AKIRA?
......

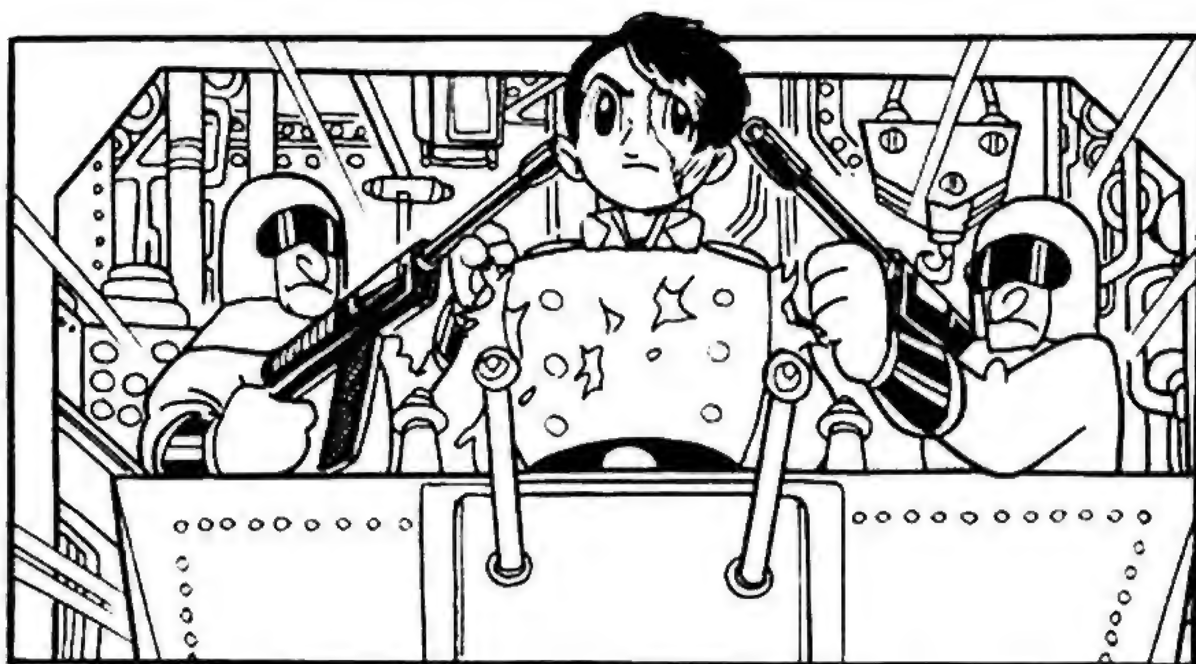

BETWEEN YOU AND ME... I'LL LET YOU GO IF YOU GIVE ME THE BIG X DRUG
MAYBE WE'D HELP NINA OUT?


I'M NOT THE MOST PATIENT OF PEOPLE, SO ANSWER ME QUICKLY!


WHERE? DON'T BE STUBBORN. TELL ME!

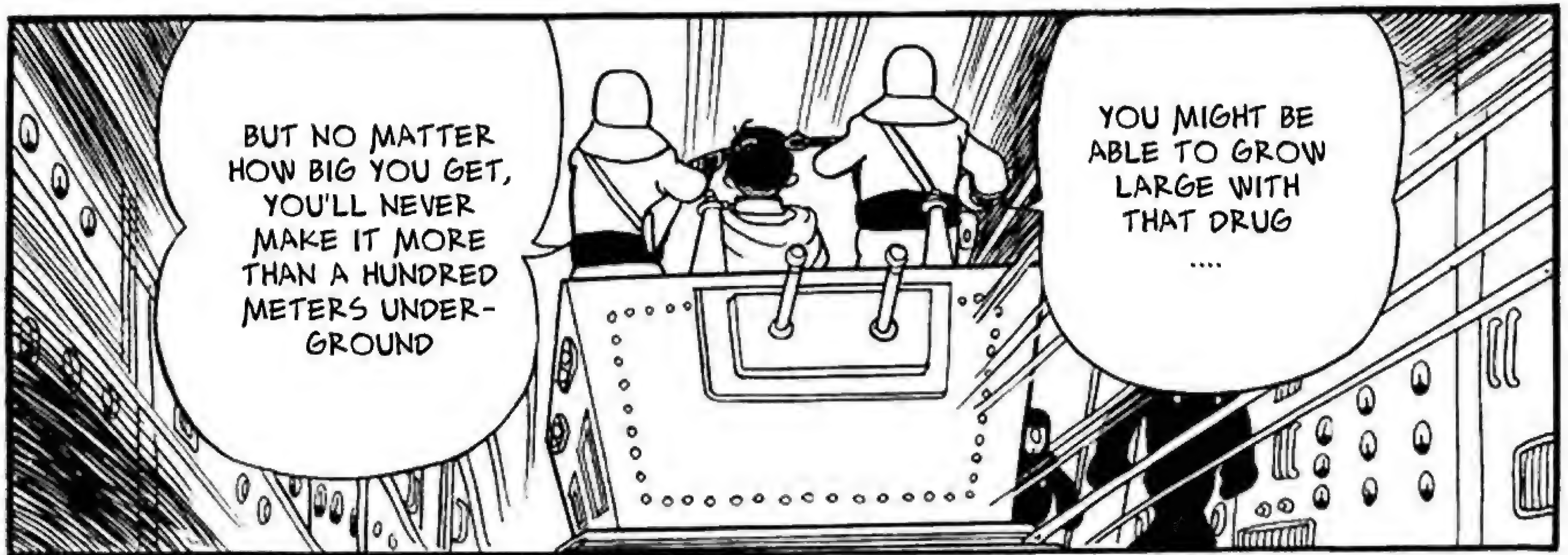



THERE ARE TENS OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE OUT THERE WHO WANT TO TAKE THE BIG X DRUG, AND IF YOU ARE ONE OF THEM, STAND IN LINE

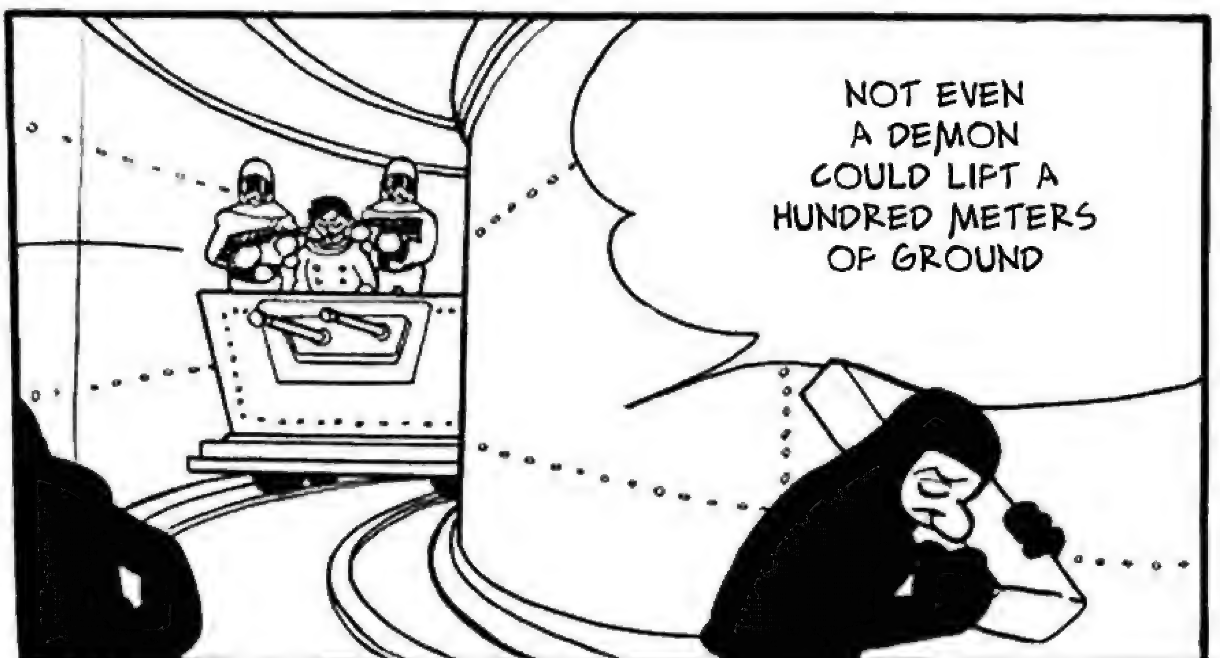



FINE... YOU'RE GOING TO REGRET IT


YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN STOP THIS


YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO GROW LARGE WITH THAT DRUG ....
BUT NO MATTER HOW BIG YOU GET, YOU'LL NEVER MAKE IT MORE THAN A HUNDRED METERS UNDER-GROUND


WHAT'S WITH THOSE BLACK SUITS?
THEY ARE YOUR PEOPLE

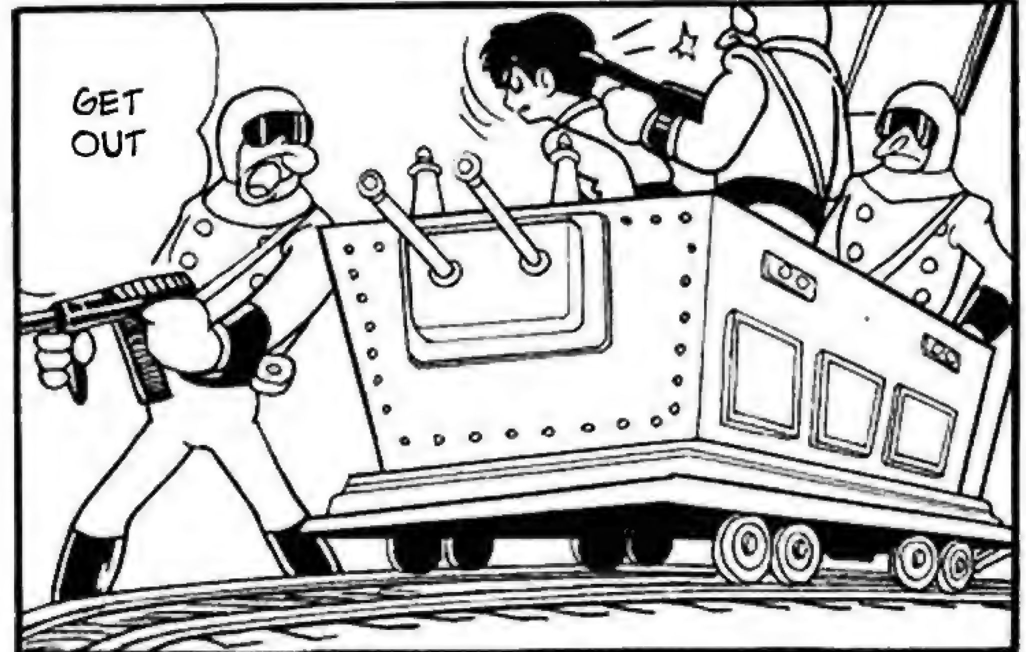

NOT EVEN A DEMON COULD LIFT A HUNDRED METERS OF GROUND


SHE'S BEEN CAPTURED

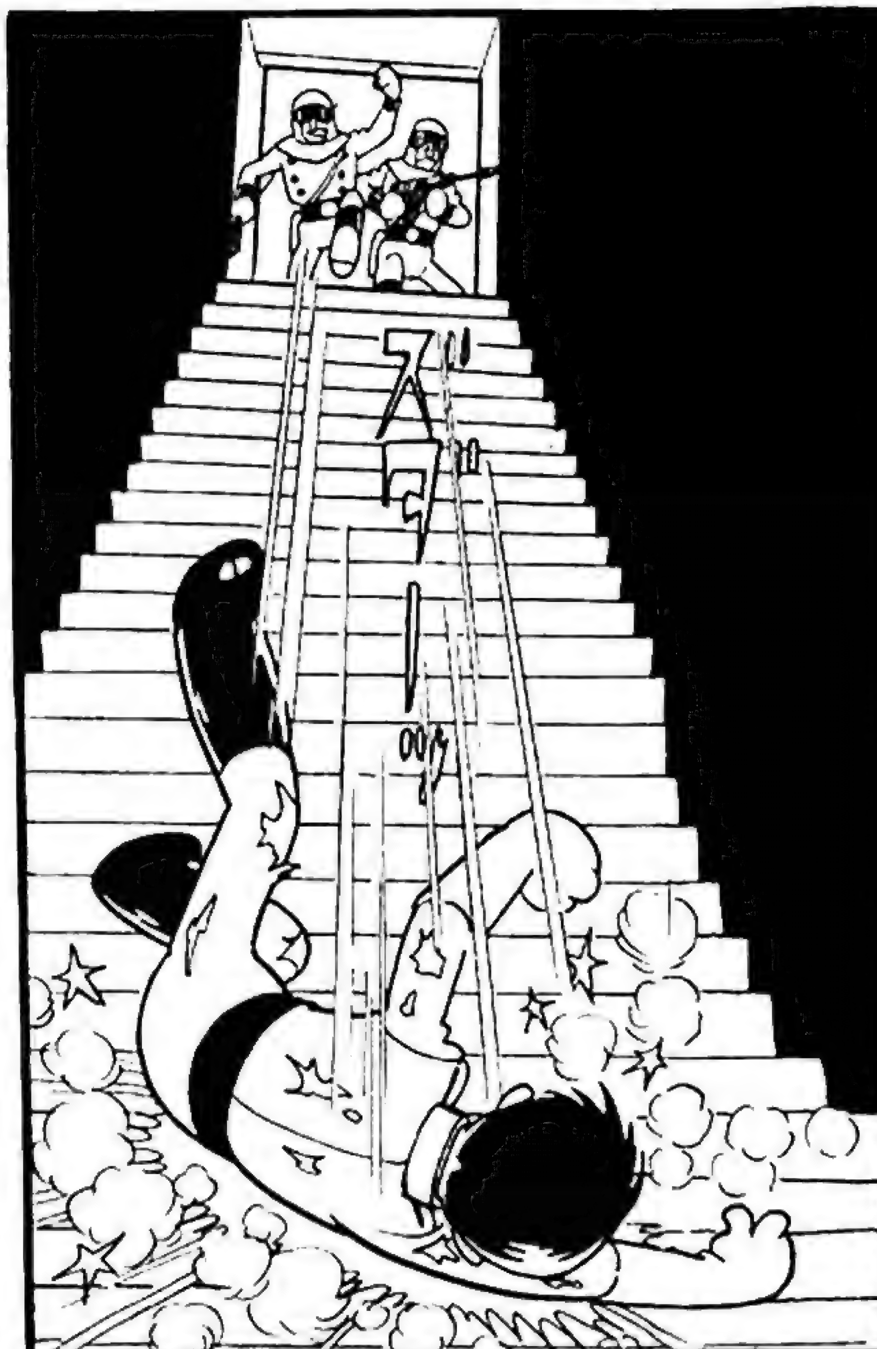


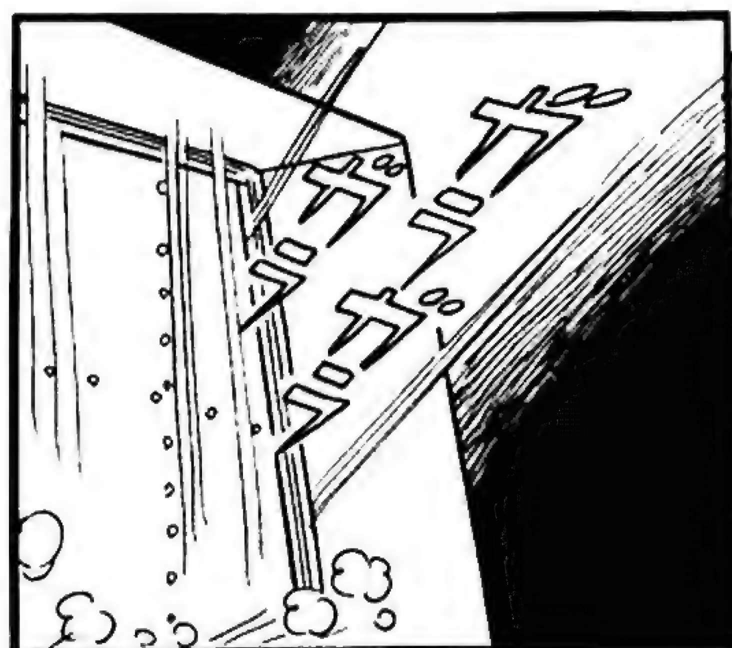

OH! NINA!

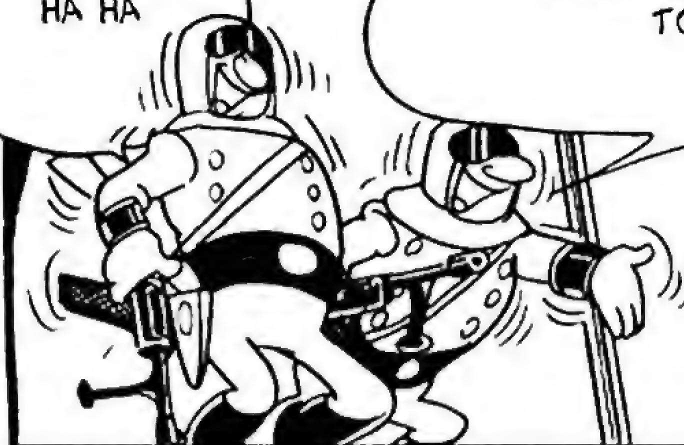

COME ON. THIS IS YOUR ROOM

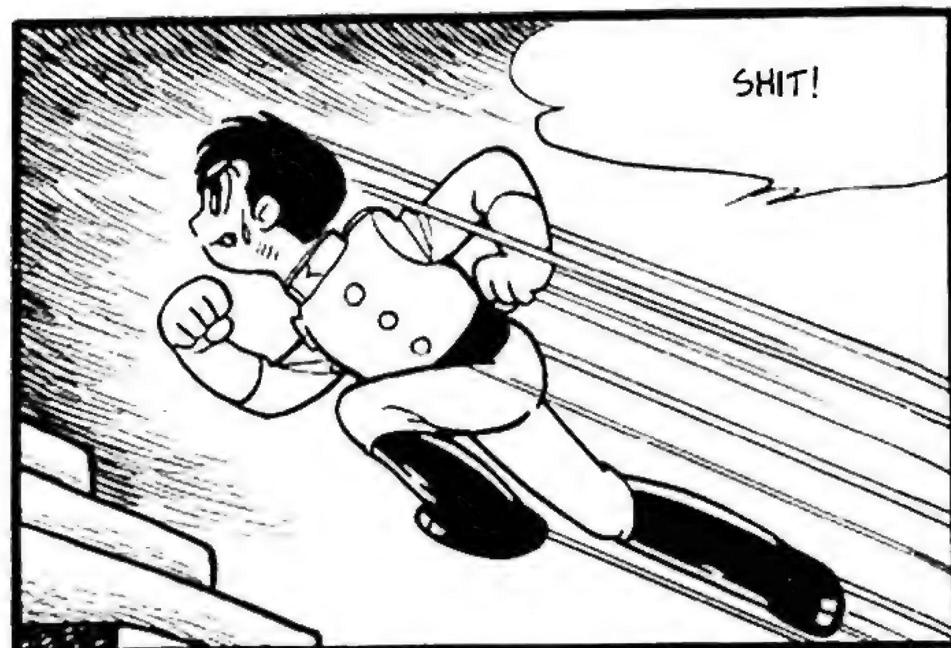

GET OUT

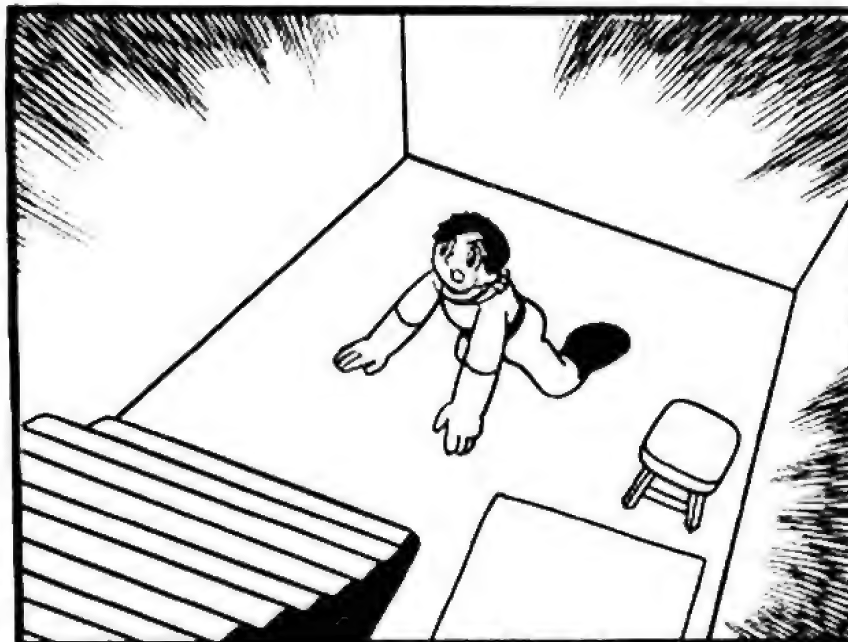

OH, ONE OTHER THING... I SHOULD TELL YOU THAT THE WALLS AND CEILINGS AROUND HERE AUTOMATICALLY GENERATE A HIGH-VOLTAGE CURRENT WHEN THEY ARE SUBJECTED TO A FORCE OF MORE THAN A CERTAIN WEIGHT

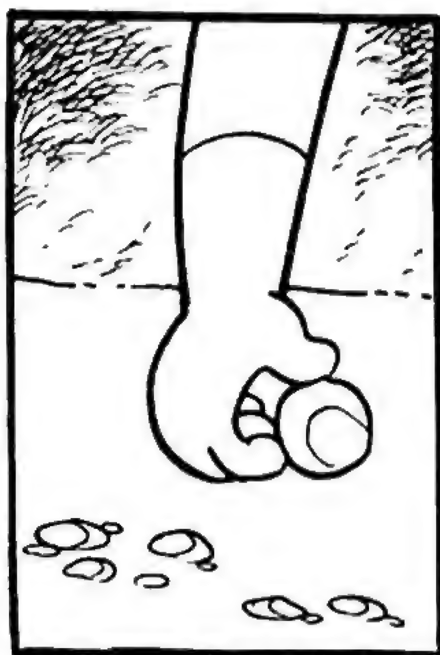




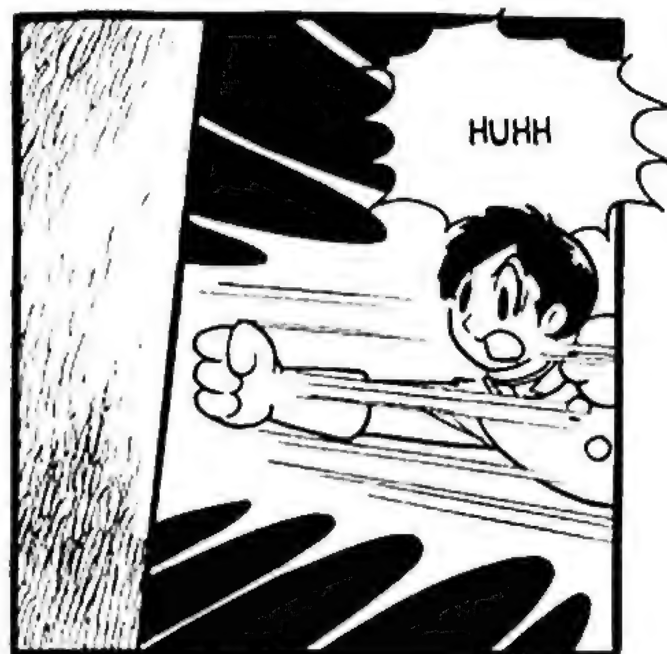

AHHH HA HA HA HA HA
IN OTHER WORDS, IF YOU RUN UP AGAINST A WALL, YOU'LL GET TOASTED


SHIT!

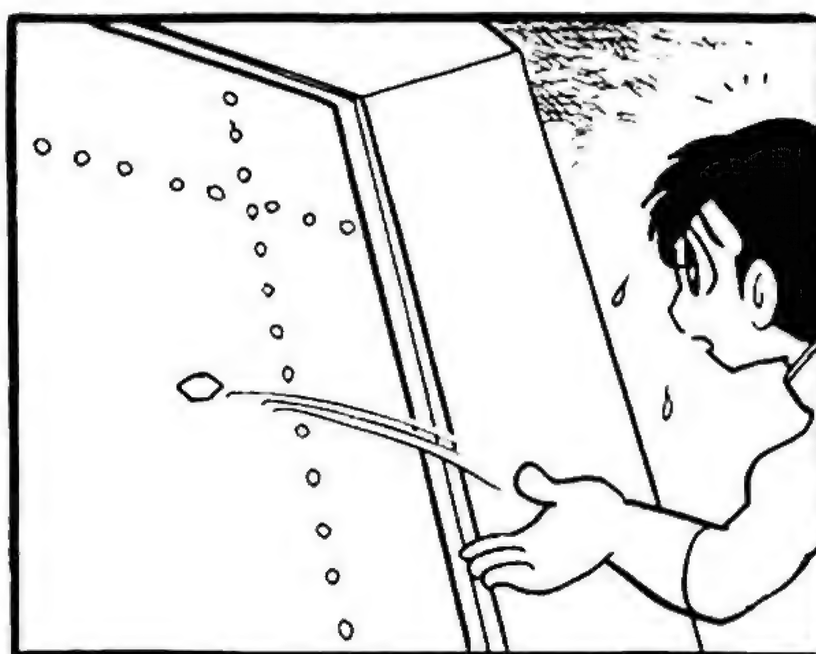





HMM
NOT GOOD

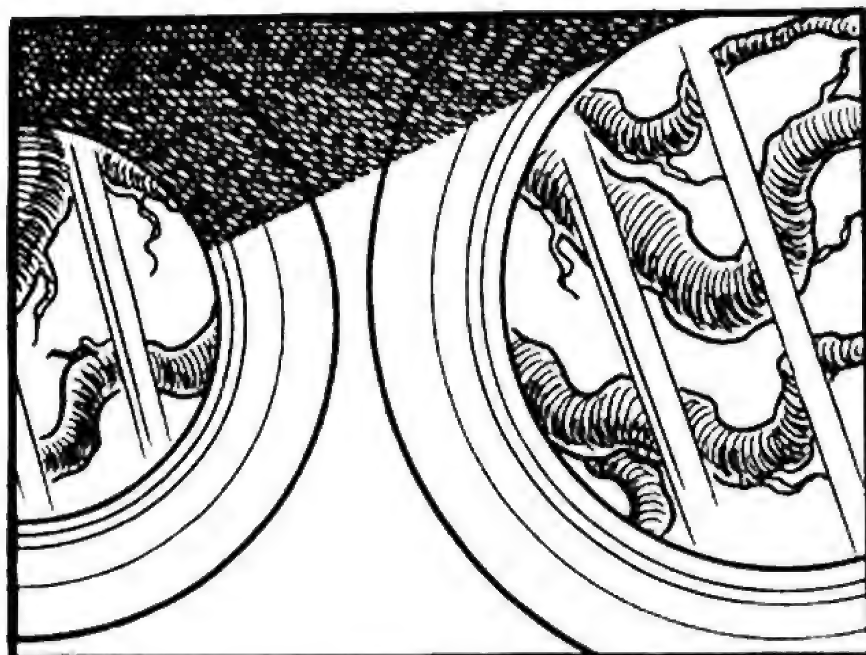

HUHH





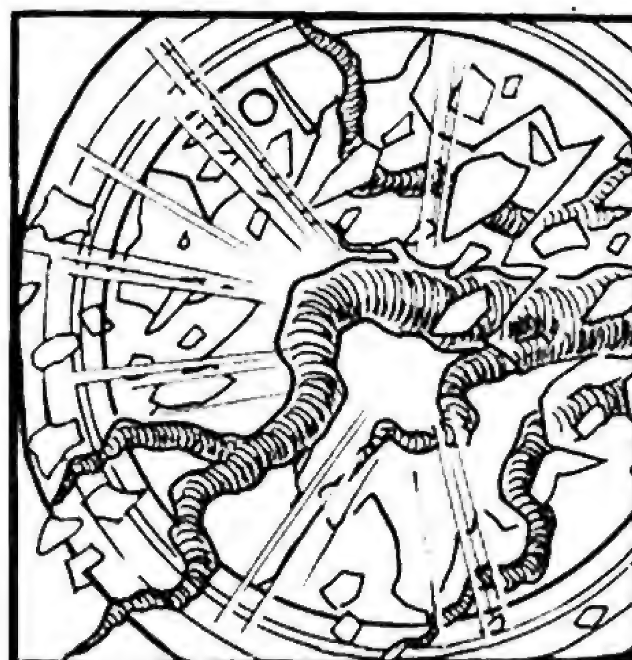

I WONDER WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH NINA

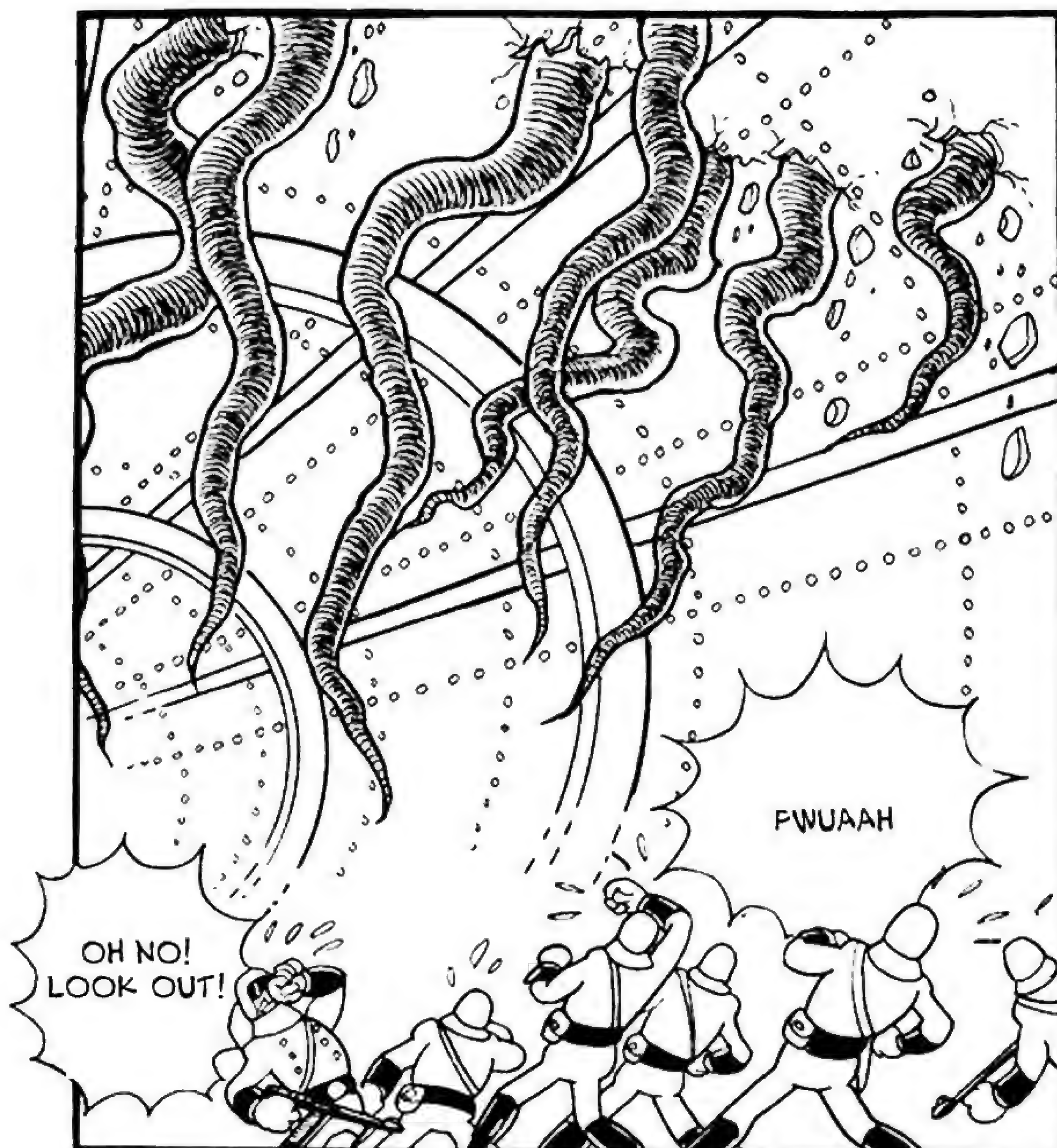

WHAT HE SAID WAS TRUE
TO BAD... I'M AFRAID THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO

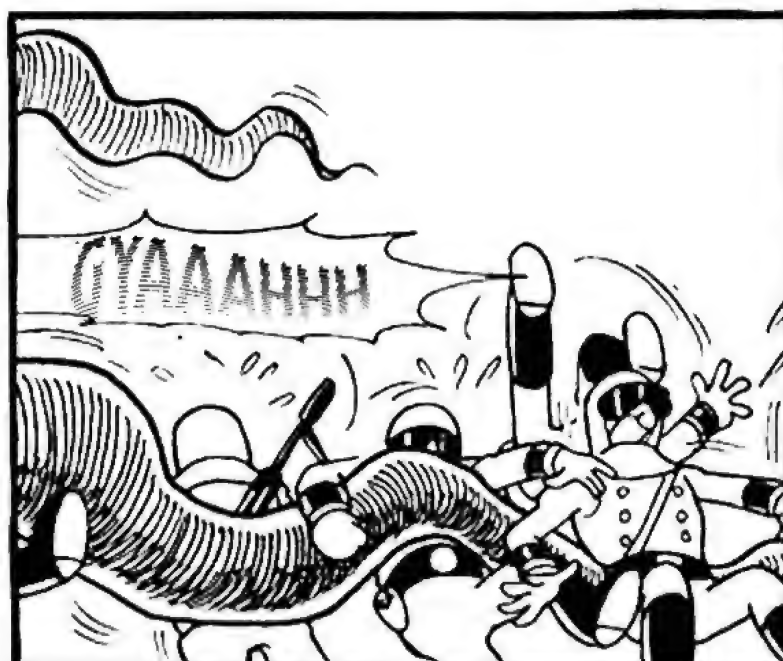




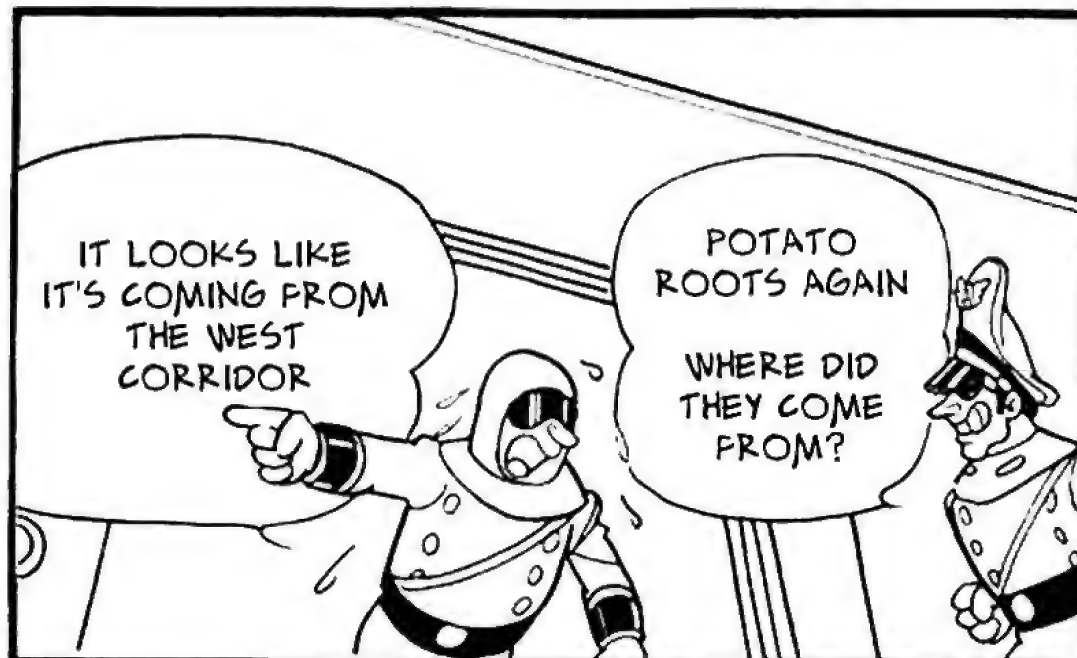

HUH? OH NO!




FWUAAH
OH NO! LOOK OUT!

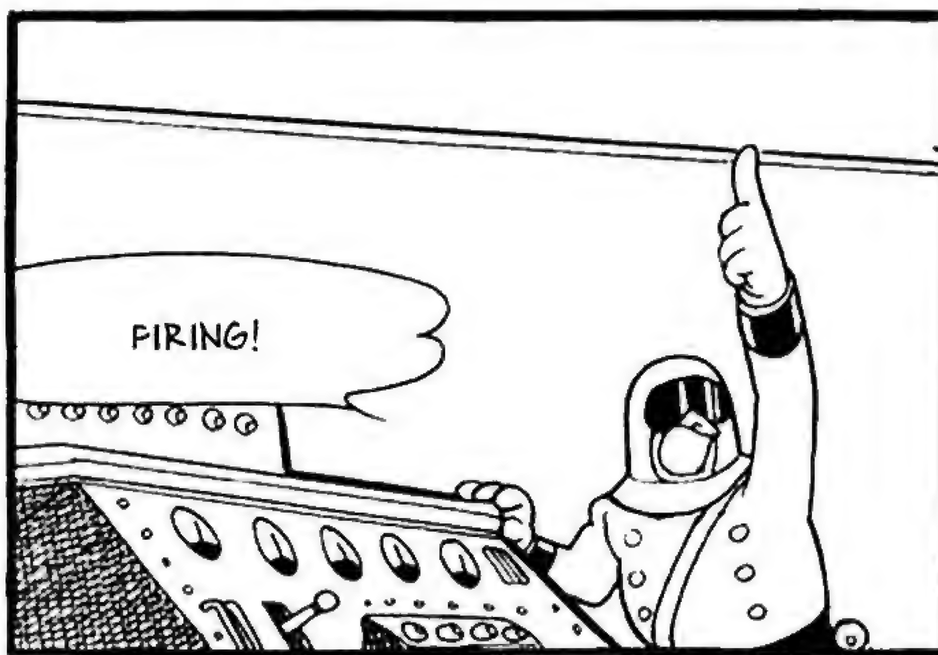

GYAAAHHH




POTATO ROOTS AGAIN

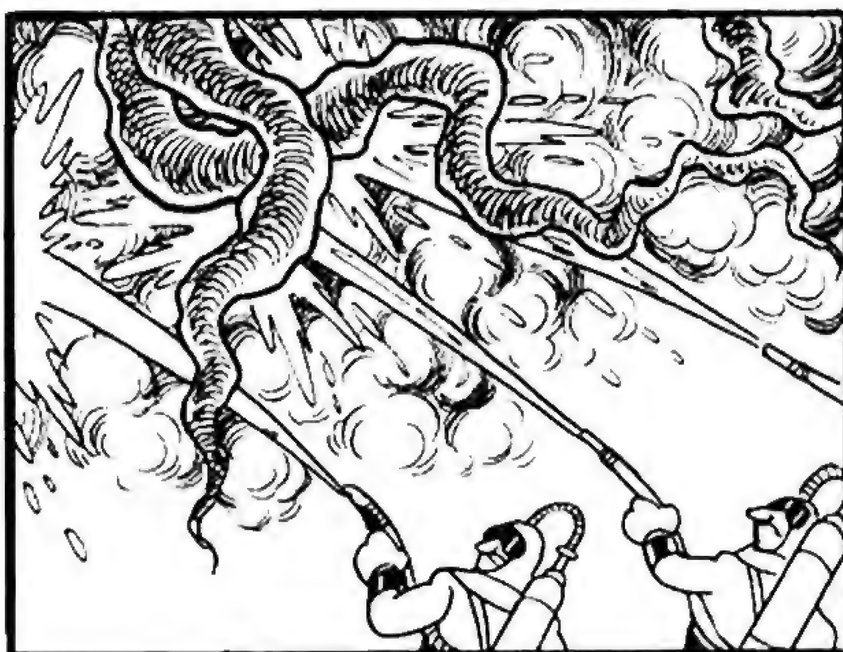
WHERE DID THEY COME FROM?
IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S COMING FROM THE WEST CORRIDOR


DAMN YOU, YOU LOUSY POTATO! LET'S BLAST IT WITH ACID!

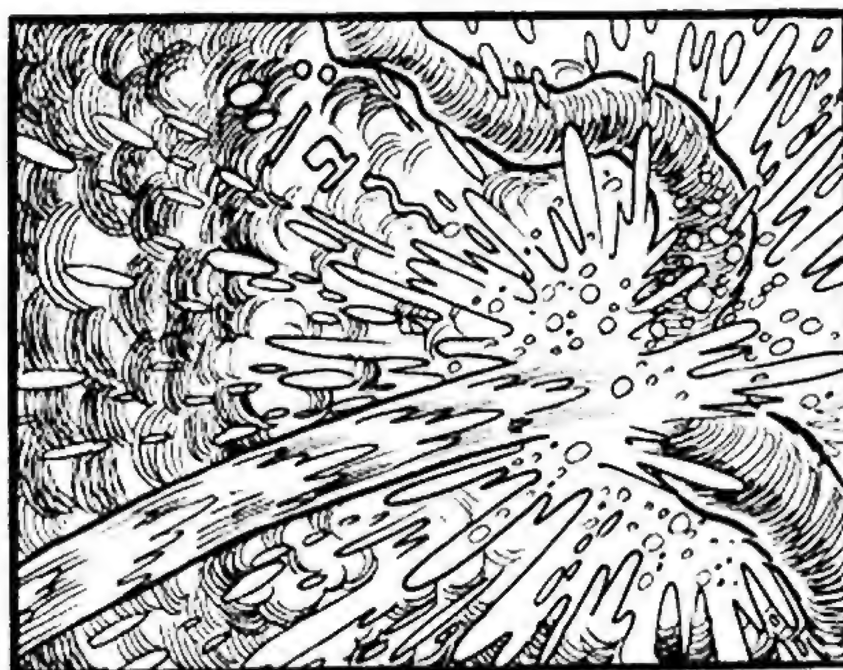

FIRING!



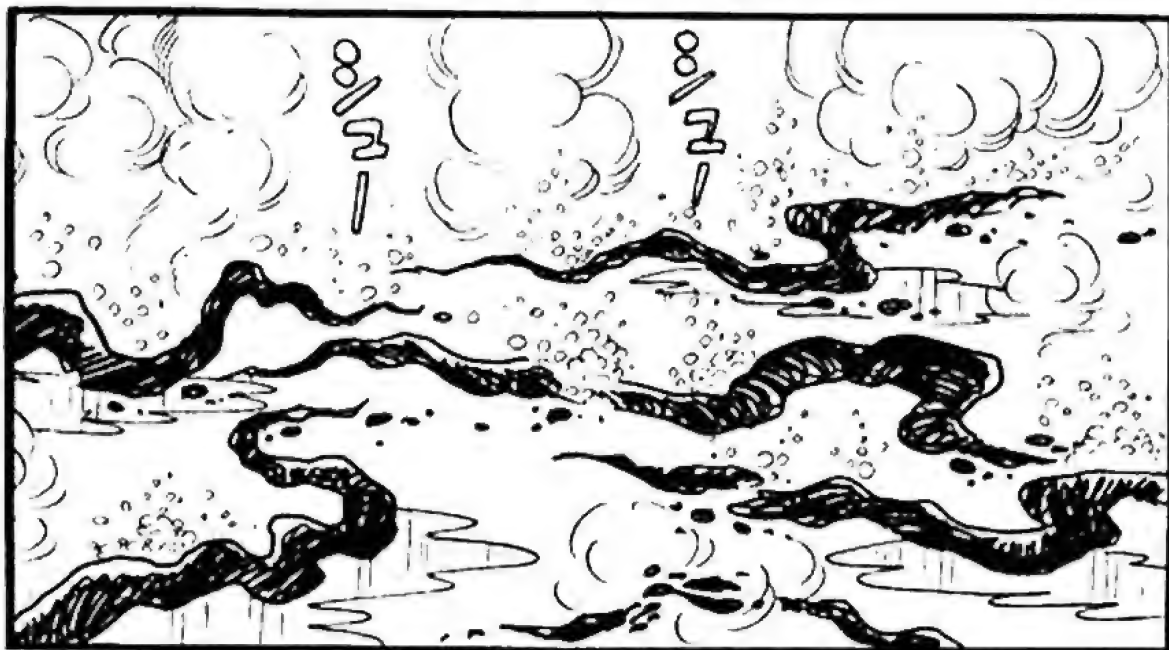

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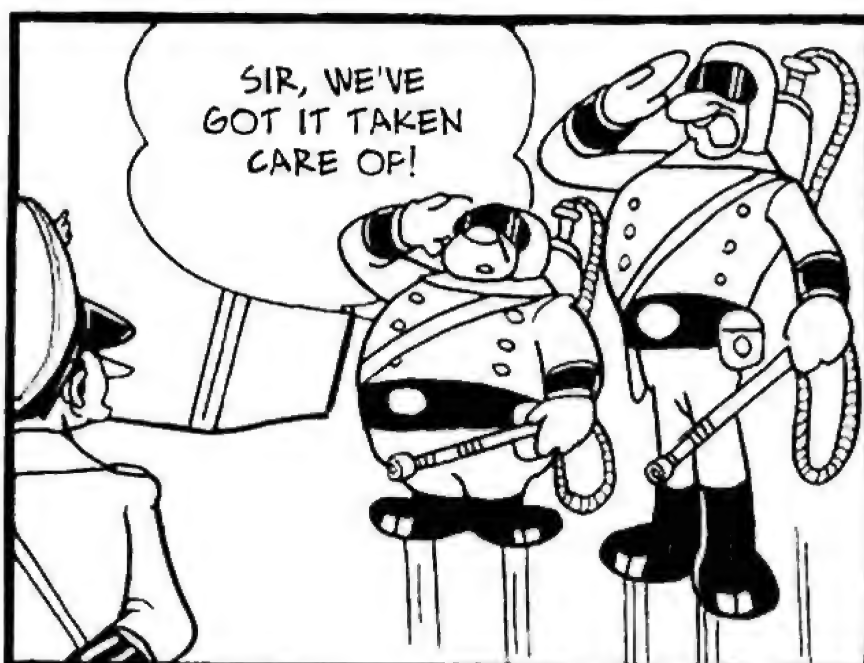



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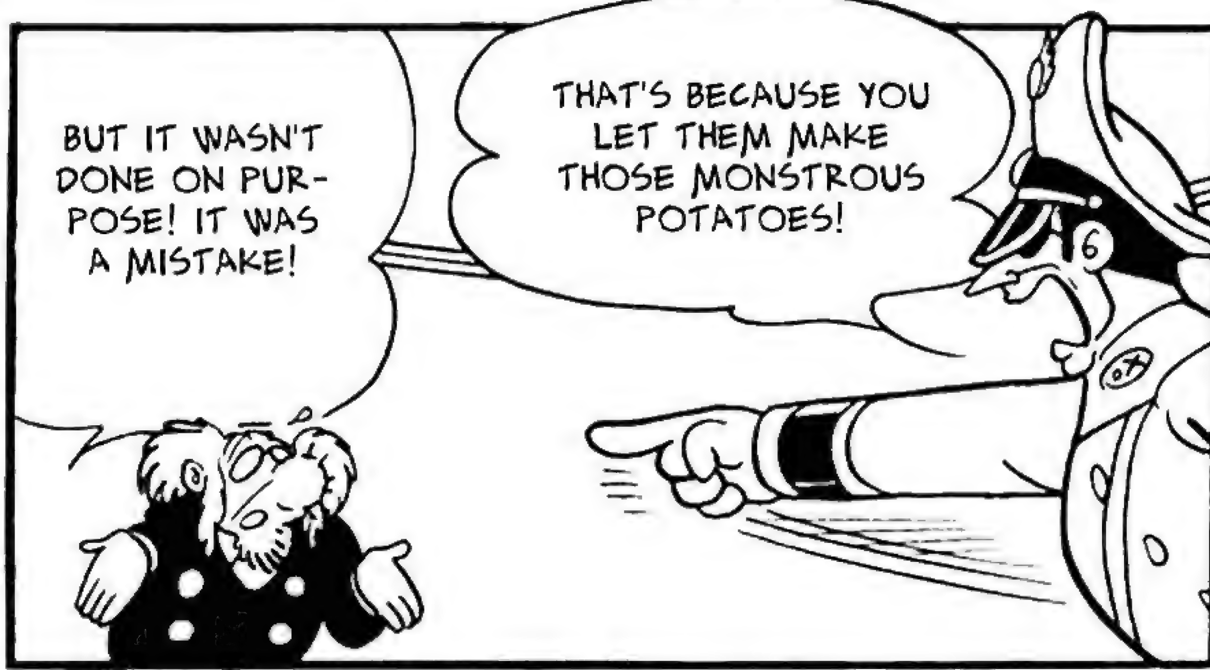




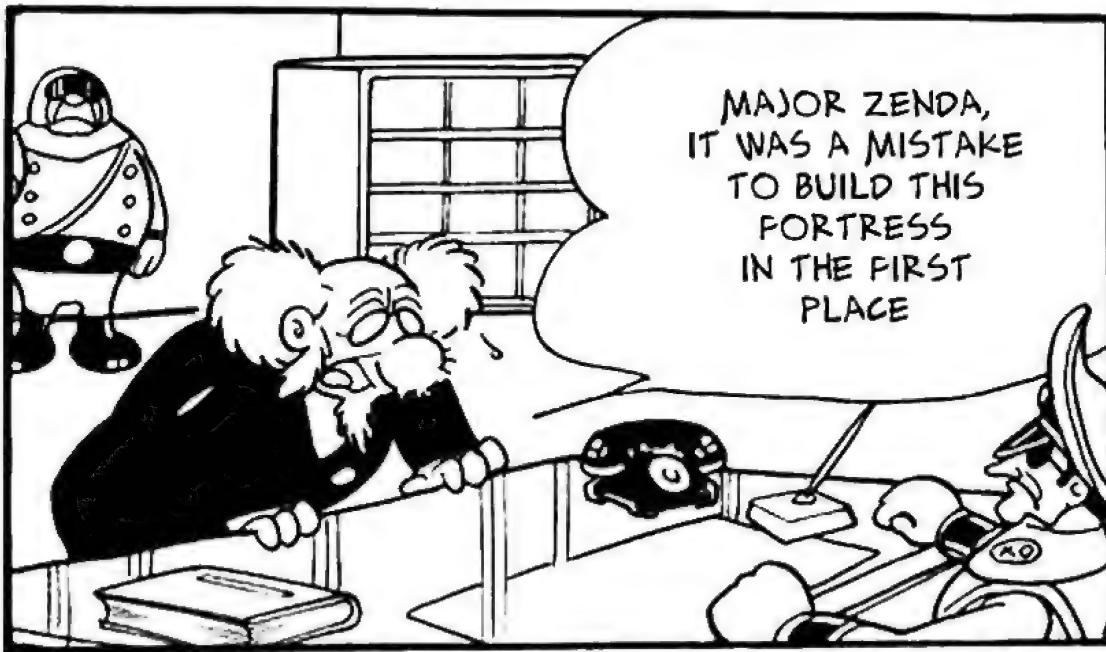

SIR, WE'VE GOT IT TAKEN CARE OF!

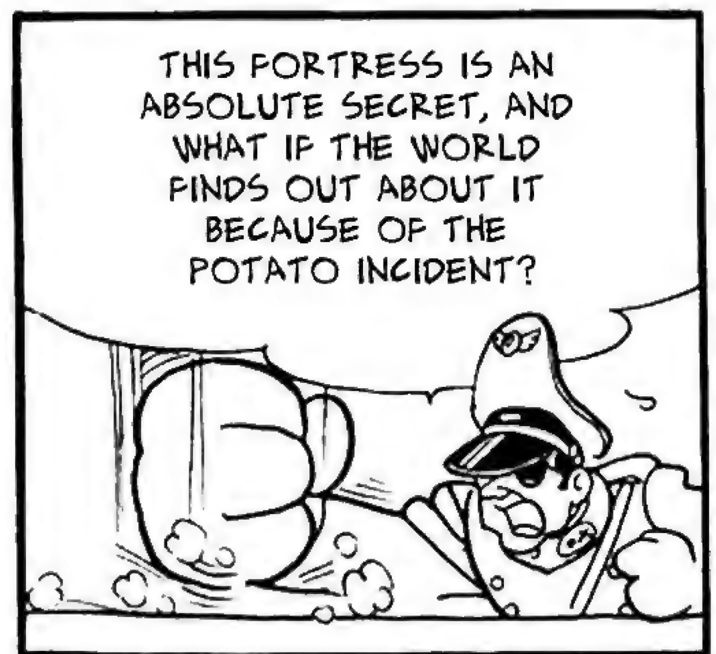

WELL DONE, BRAVE MEN!

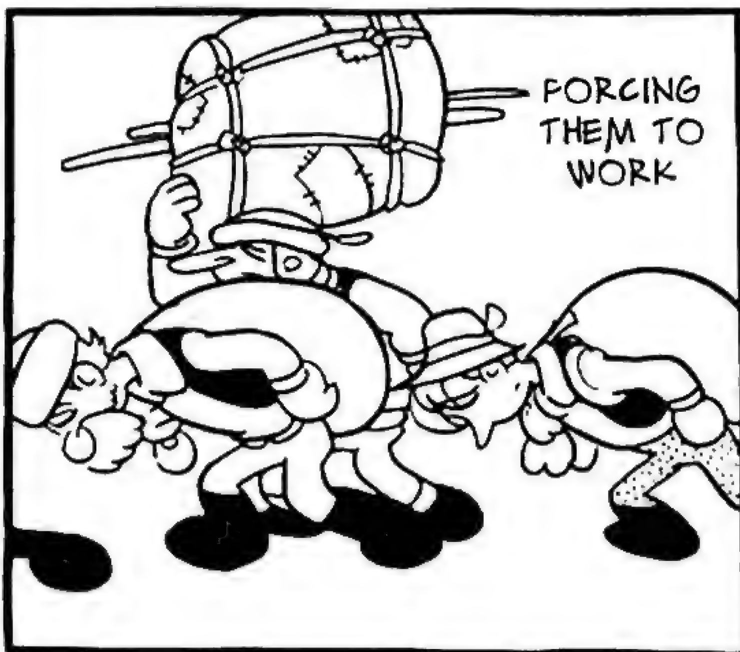

THAT POTATO MONSTER WAS DIGGING INTO THE FORTRESS'S HULL FROM THE OUTSIDE
THAT'S WHY THE FORTRESS WAS IN TROUBLE


THAT'S BECAUSE YOU LET THEM MAKE THOSE MONSTROUS POTATOES!
BUT IT WASN'T DONE ON PUR-POSE! IT WAS A MISTAKE!

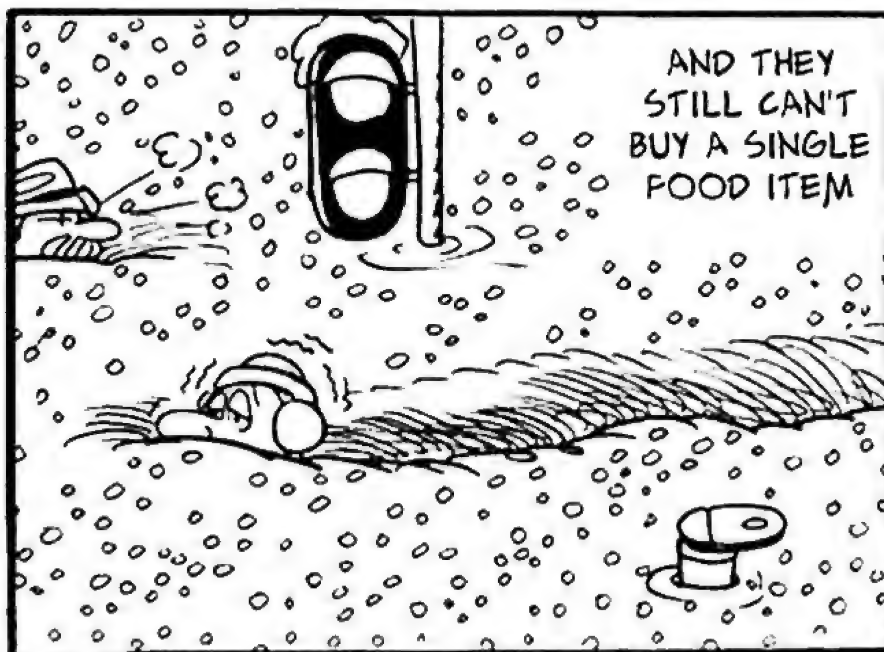

BE QUIET!


MAJOR ZENDA, IT WAS A MISTAKE TO BUILD THIS FORTRESS IN THE FIRST PLACE


THIS FORTRESS IS AN ABSOLUTE SECRET, AND WHAT IF THE WORLD FINDS OUT ABOUT IT BECAUSE OF THE POTATO INCIDENT?


FORCING THEM TO WORK

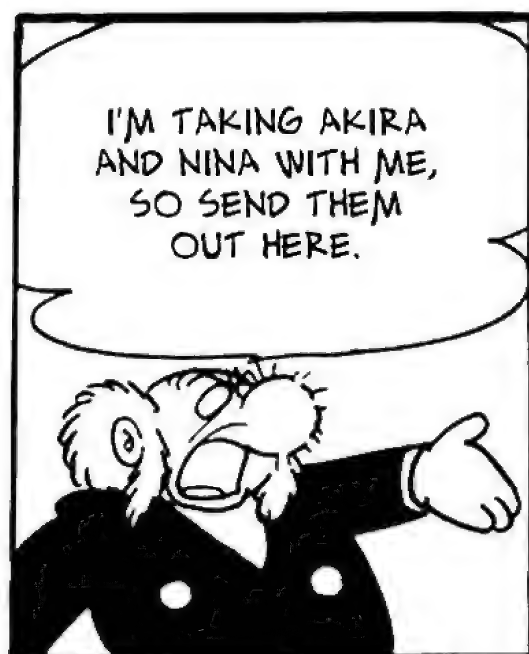

WE WERE GOING TO MAKE A LOT OF MONEY OFF OF THE PEOPLE
建設募金

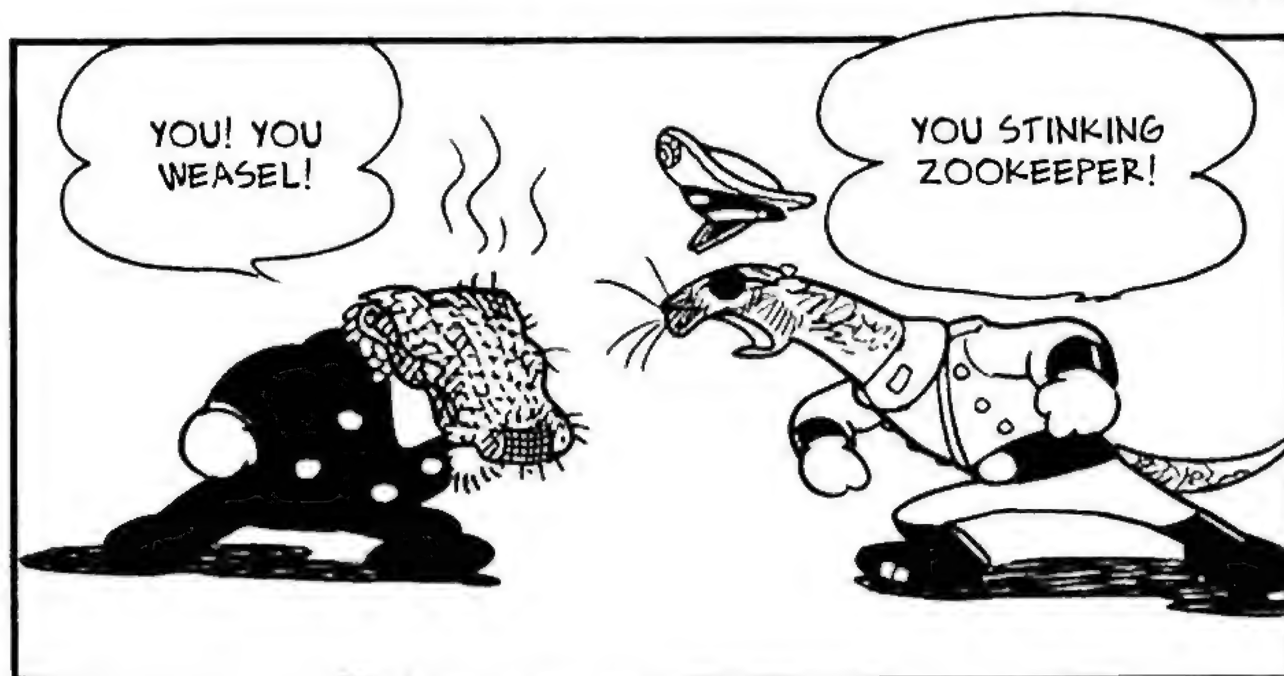

AND THEY STILL CAN'T BUY A SINGLE FOOD ITEM


IT'S MADE US ALL VERY POOR AND STRAPPED, AND IT'S GOING TO MAKE US EVEN WORSE OFF DURING THE NEXT COLD SPELL.

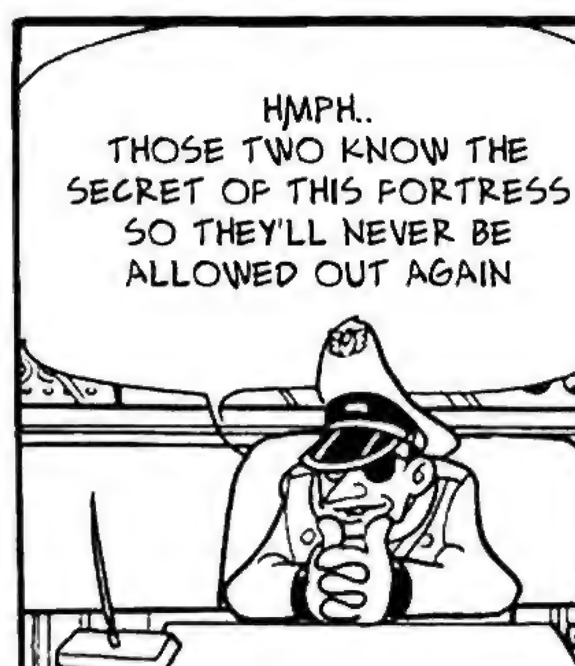

FEH! BLA BLA BLA! HOW DARE YOU DOCTOR!


I WAS AGAINST THE FORTRESS FROM THE BEGINNING!
I THINK I'D RATHER BE SMASHED BY POTATOES THAN BY THIS FORTRESS


I'M TAKING AKIRA AND NINA WITH ME, SO SEND THEM OUT HERE.


YOU STINKING ZOOKEEPER!
YOU! YOU WEASEL!


IT'S NO USE TALKING TO YOU!
STOP DOCTOR!

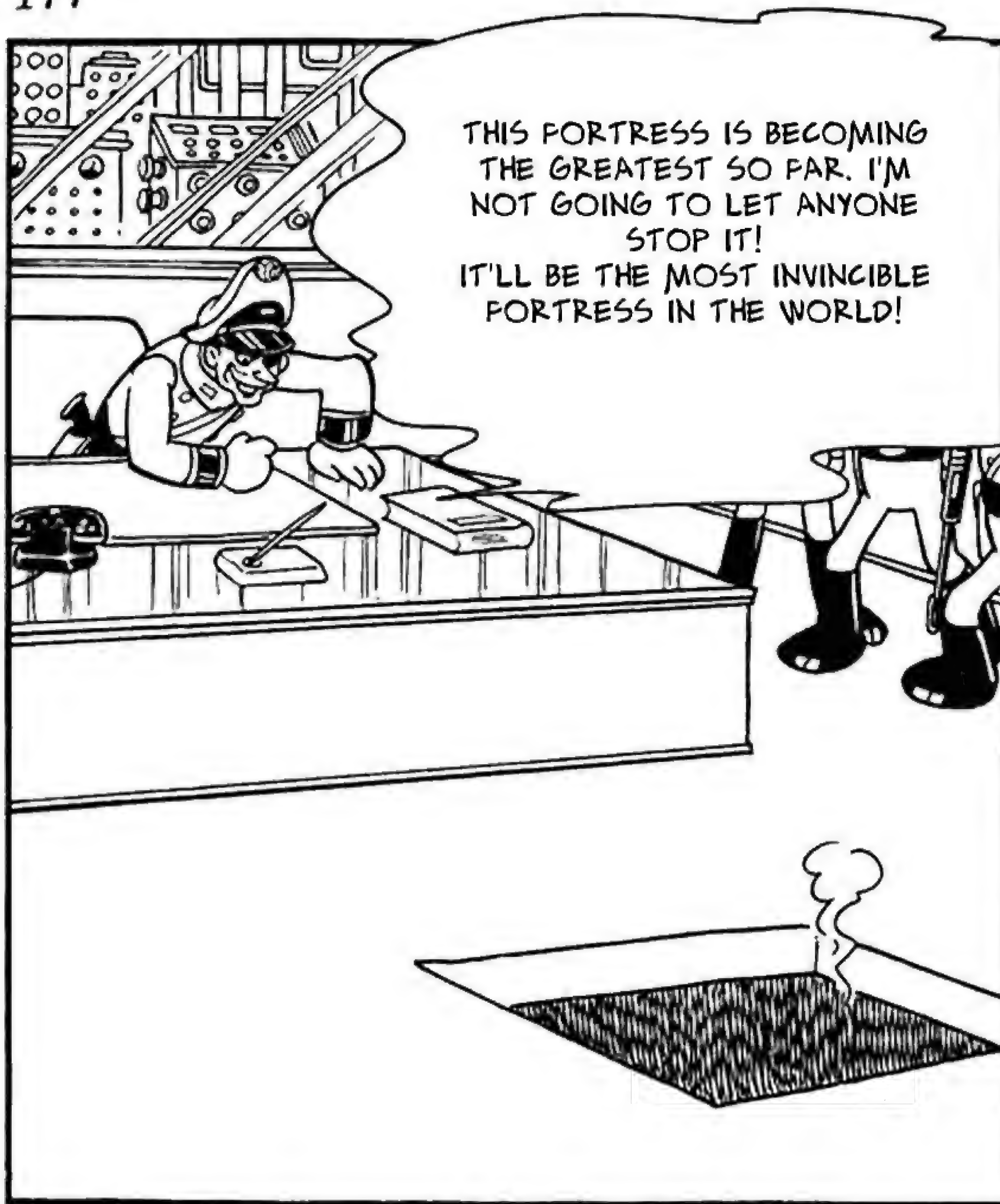

HMPH..
THOSE TWO KNOW THE SECRET OF THIS FORTRESS SO THEY'LL NEVER BE ALLOWED OUT AGAIN


OH SO YOU WANT TO SHOOT ME? YOU THINK YOU ARE SCARING ME?

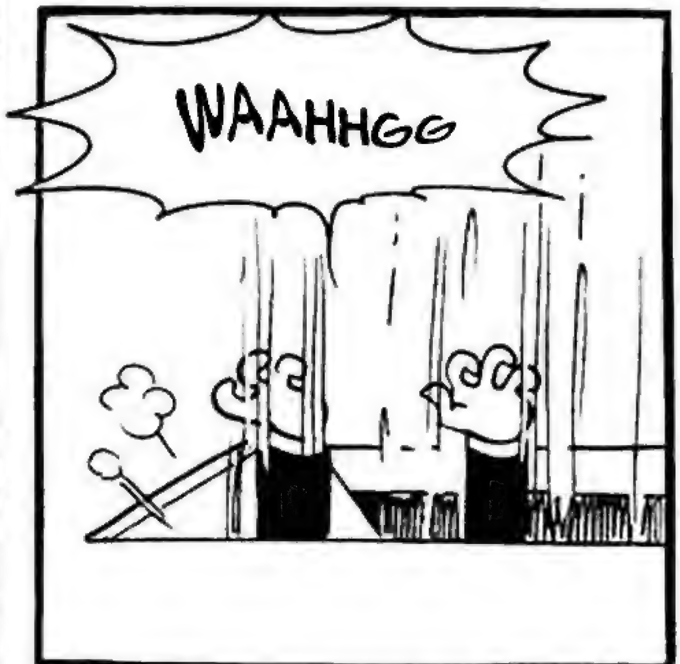

I WORE A BULLETPROOF VEST BECAUSE I KNEW YOU'D TRY TO SHOOT ME!



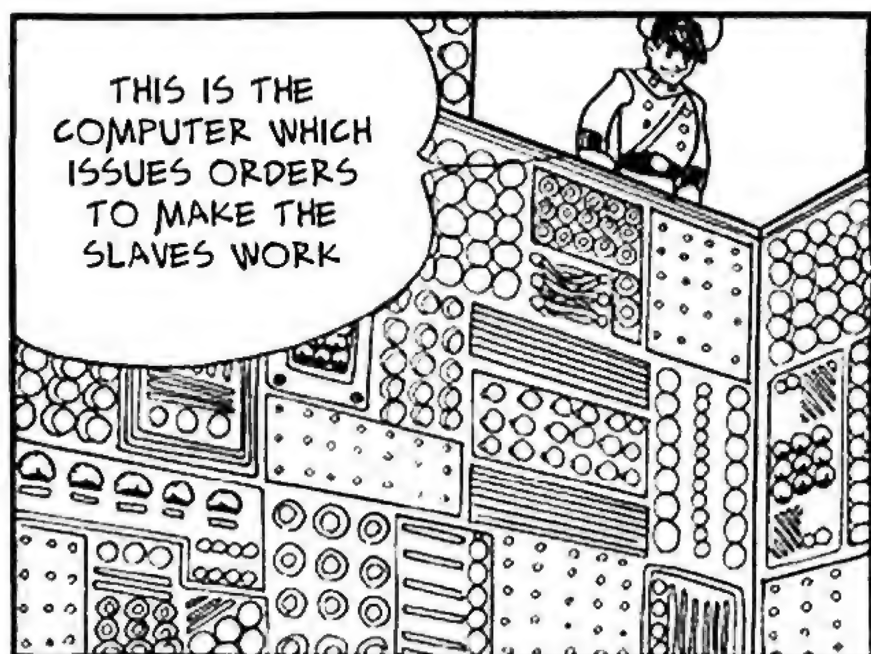


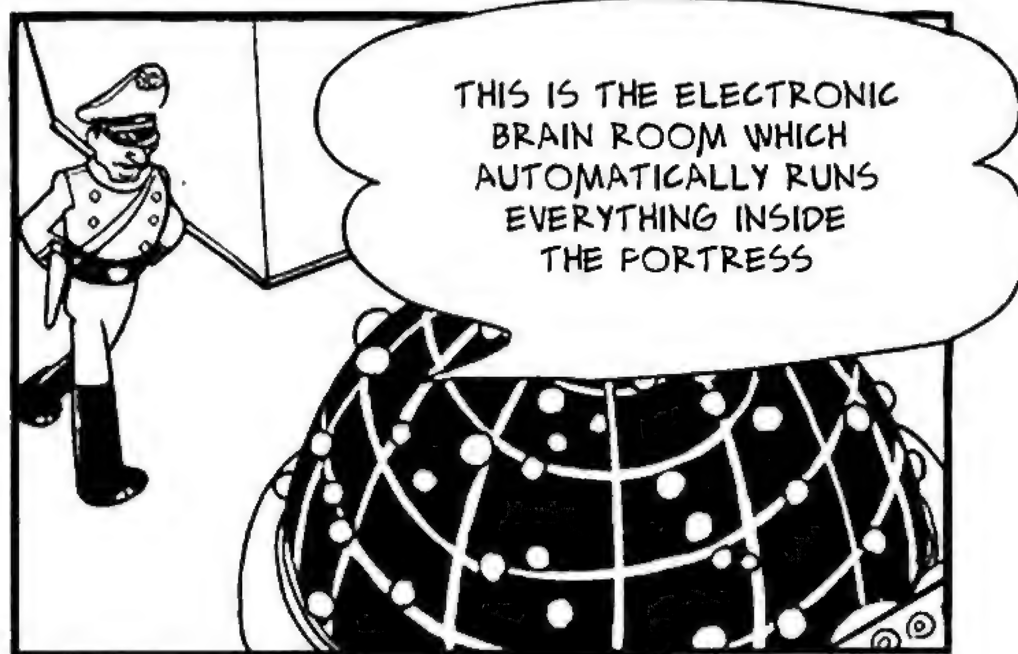

THIS FORTRESS IS BECOMING THE GREATEST SO FAR. I'M NOT GOING TO LET ANYONE STOP IT! IT'LL BE THE MOST INVINCIBLE FORTRESS IN THE WORLD!

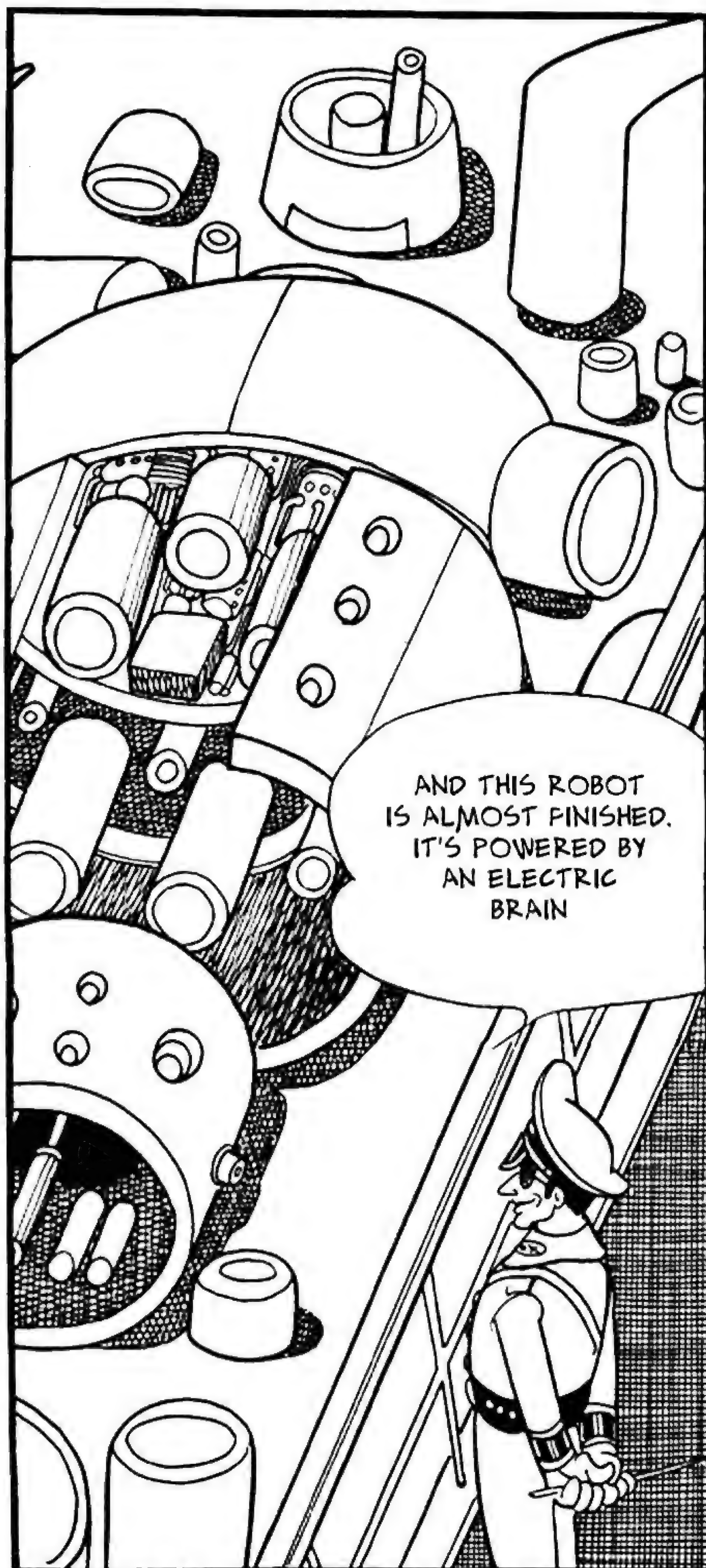


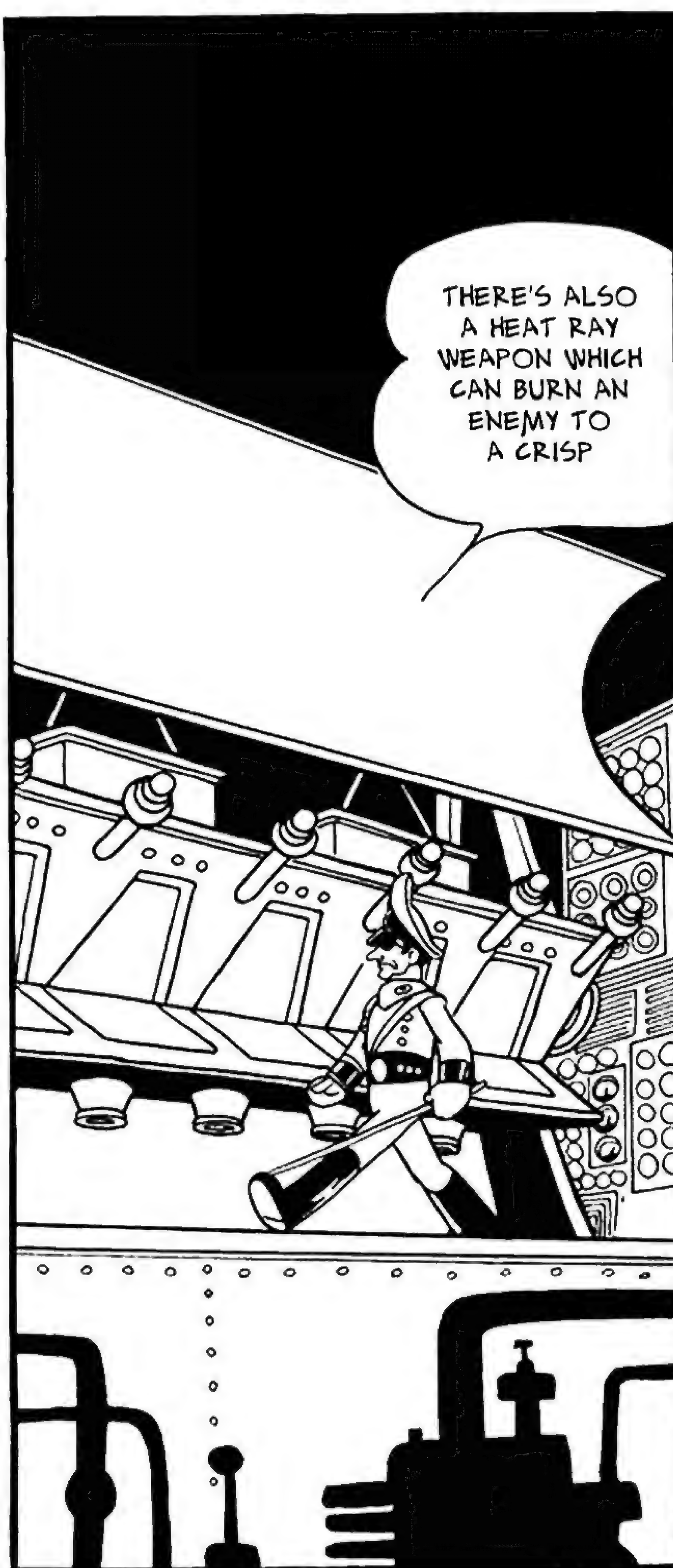

WAAHHGG

I'M NOT GOING TO LET ANYONE GET IN THE WAY OF MY PLANS. NOT EVEN THE DOCTOR


THIS IS THE COMPUTER WHICH ISSUES ORDERS TO MAKE THE SLAVES WORK


THIS IS THE ELECTRONIC BRAIN ROOM WHICH AUTOMATICALLY RUNS EVERYTHING INSIDE THE FORTRESS


AND THIS ROBOT IS ALMOST FINISHED. IT'S POWERED BY AN ELECTRIC BRAIN


THERE'S ALSO A HEAT RAY WEAPON WHICH CAN BURN AN ENEMY TO A CRISP


YOU WORK, YOU EAT


I-I'M HUNGRY... STARVING! PLEASE JUST LET ME HAVE A PIECE OF BREAD


YOU! WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN THERE?

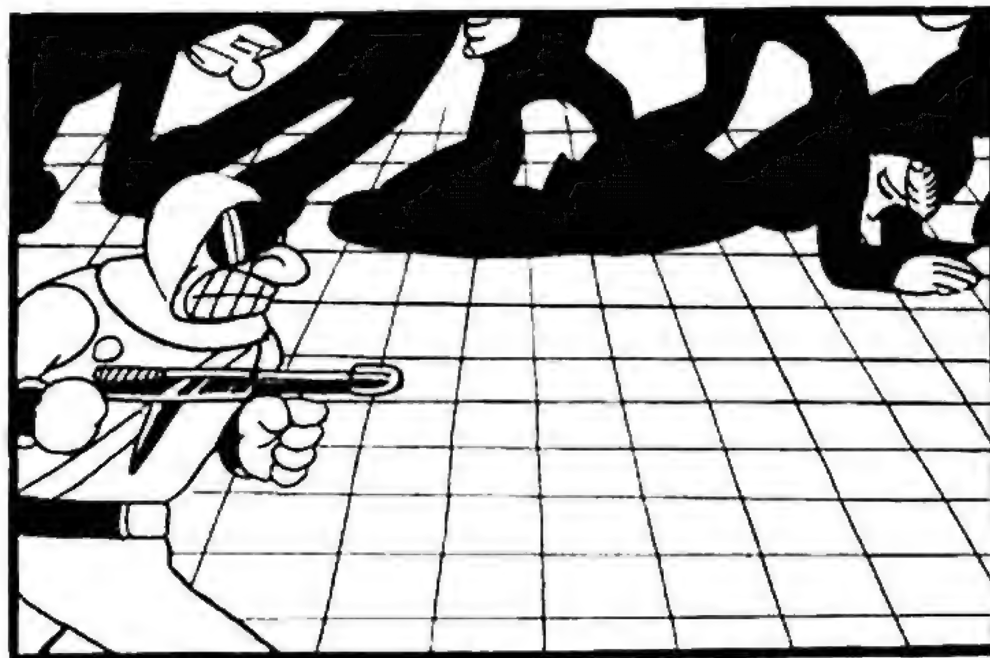

YOU'VE COME TO WORK FOR US BECAUSE YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO PAY TAXES, AND IT'S A LUXURY TO EAT A FULL MEAL



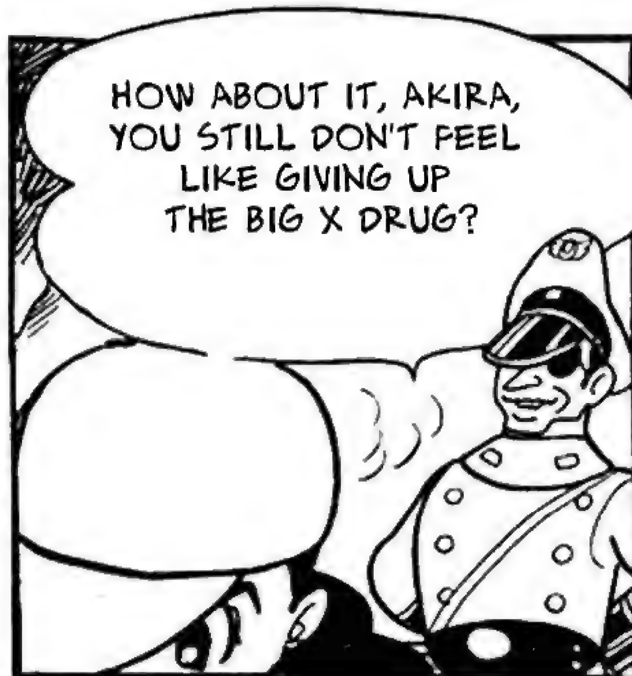

MERCY, MY LORD



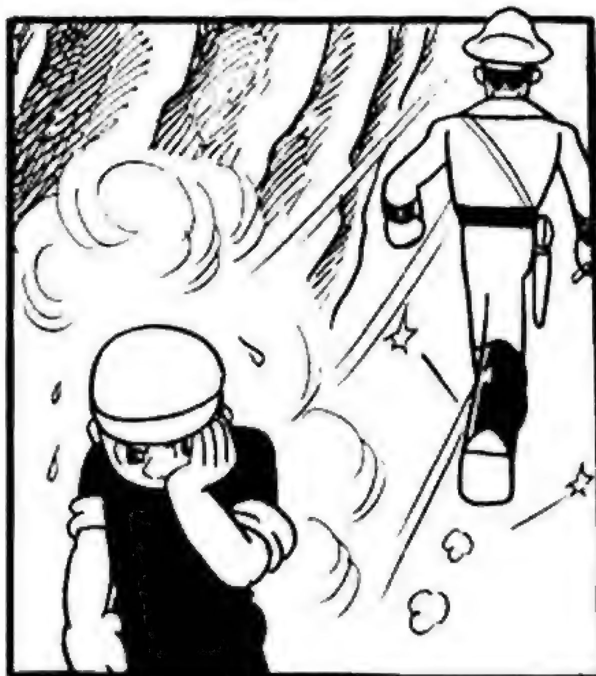

TAKE THEM TO THE TOUGHEST PART OF THE WORKSHOP!




......
......


HOW ABOUT IT, AKIRA, YOU STILL DON'T FEEL LIKE GIVING UP THE BIG X DRUG?






YOU STUBBORN BASTARD, YOU'LL ALWAYS BE WORKING HERE.



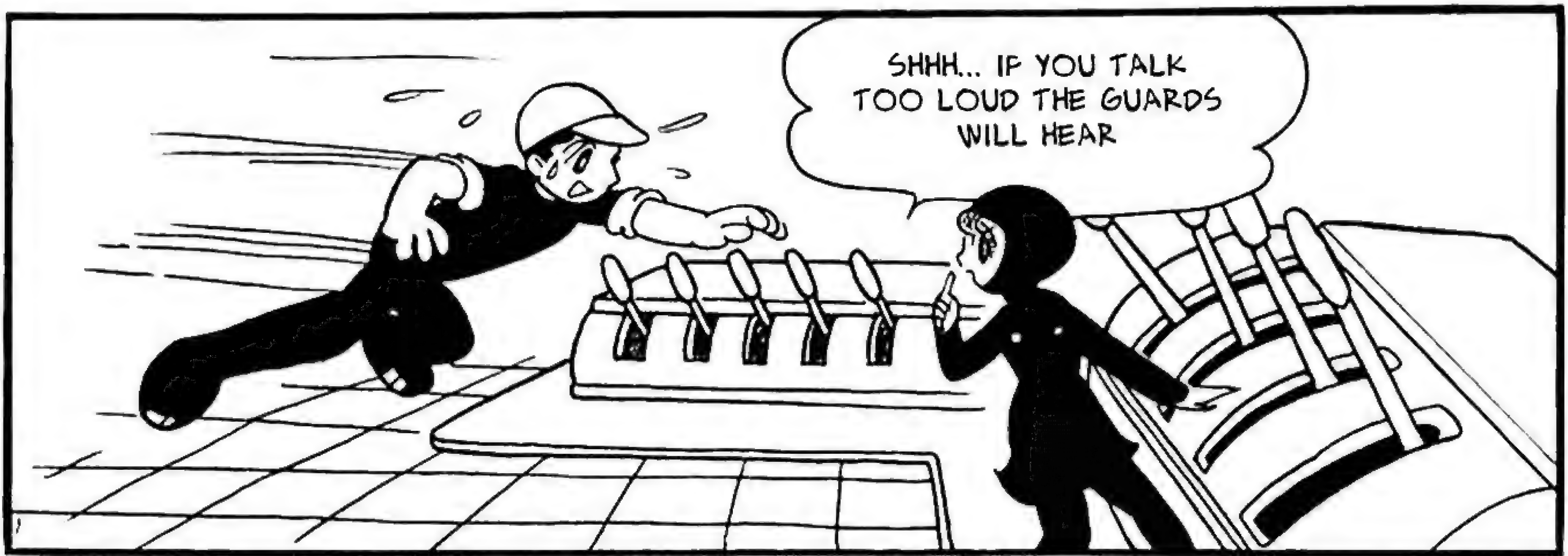


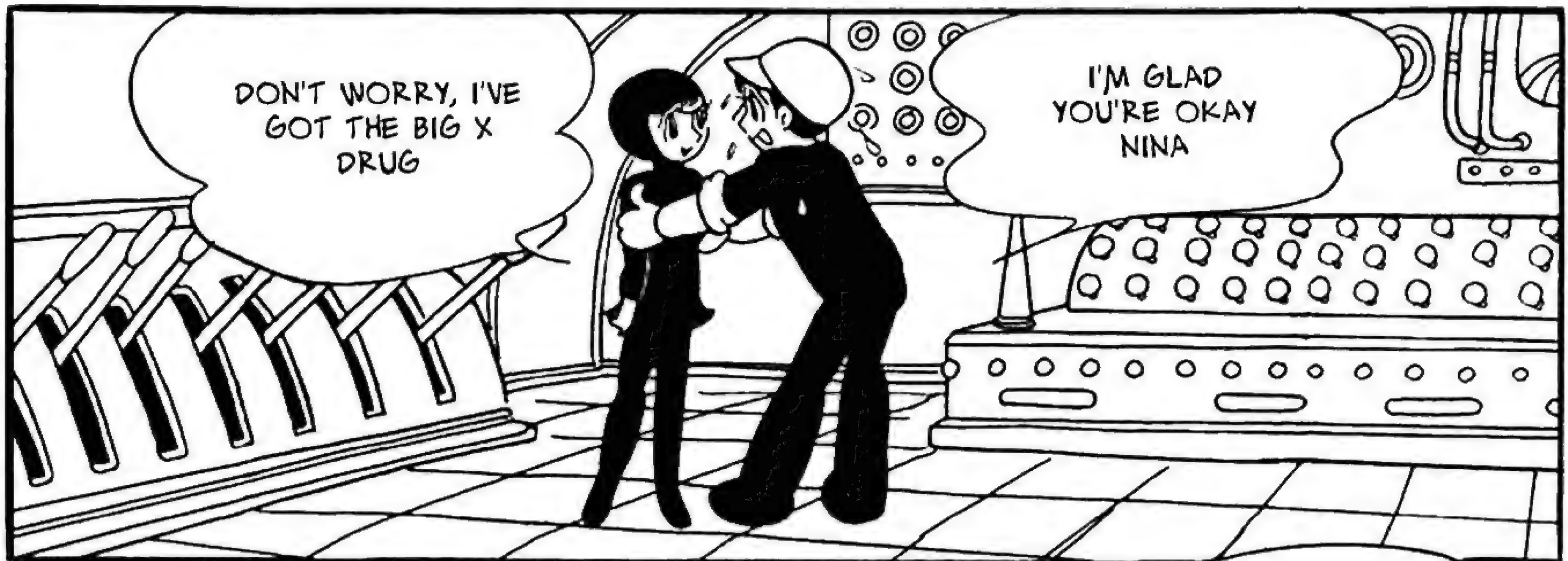

TAKE A RIGHT. NOW TURN RIGHT HERE... IT'S THE NEXT ROOM


AKIRA


NINA!!


NINA! WHERE ARE YOU?
I'M VERY NEAR YOU


SHHH... IF YOU TALK TOO LOUD THE GUARDS WILL HEAR

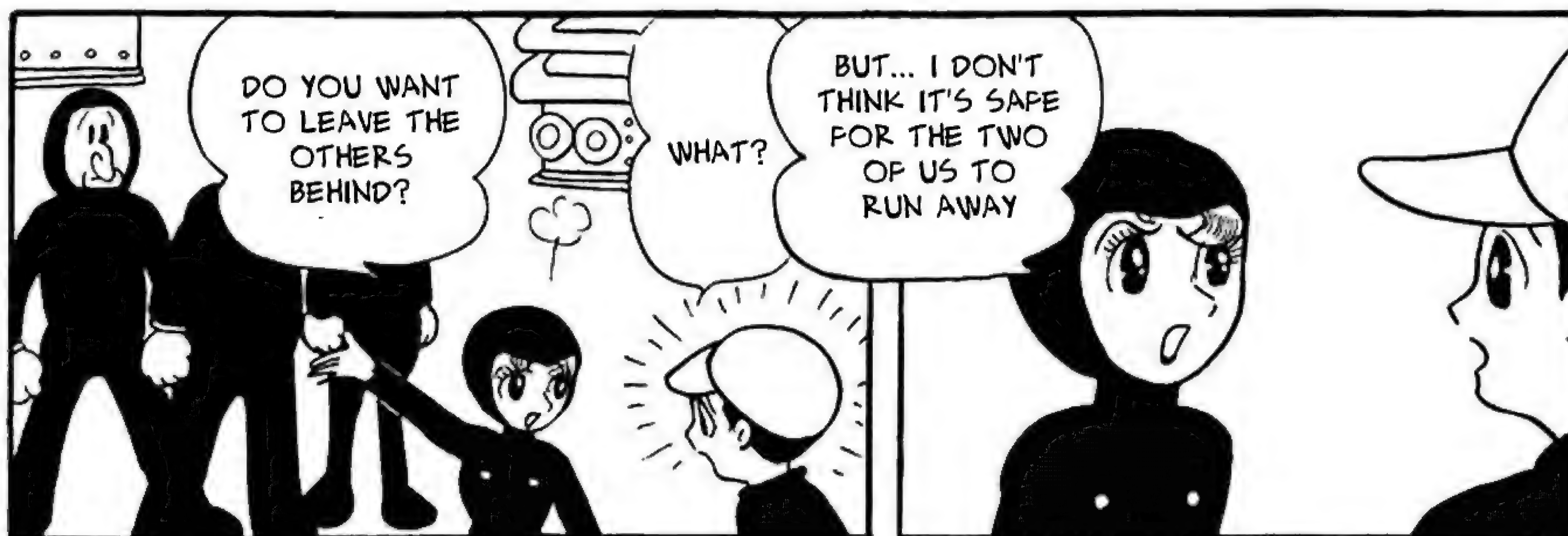

I'M GLAD YOU'RE OKAY NINA
DON'T WORRY, I'VE GOT THE BIG X DRUG


I PUT IT IN MY COMPACT


I WAS ABLE TO GRAB IT OUT OF YOUR POCKET AND TRANSFER IT TO A DIFFERENT CONTAINER
OH THAT'S GREAT! I KNEW YOU HAD IT!


NINA, I KNOW HOW TO GET US OUT OF HERE... WE'LL TAKE THE GUARDS' CLOTHES TO DISGUISE OURSELVES AND TAKE A SHOT OF BIG X


HA! WHAT A SURPRISE! I'M SURE THE MAJOR WOULD NEVER HAVE THOUGHT TO CHECK THERE!

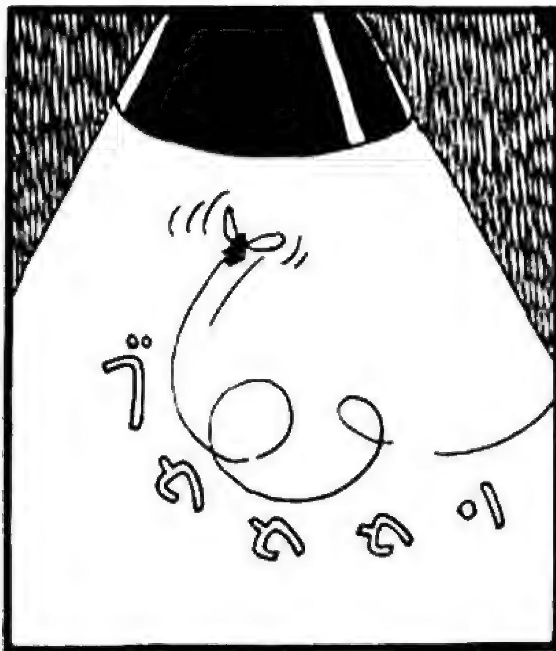

DO YOU WANT TO LEAVE THE OTHERS BEHIND?
WHAT?
BUT... I DON'T THINK IT'S SAFE FOR THE TWO OF US TO RUN AWAY


AKIRA, THEY'RE ALL IN A BIND HERE AND THEY ALL WANT TO ESCAPE
EVEN IF WE TOOK THEM, I DON'T HAVE ENOUGH OF THE DRUG TO GET THIS MANY PEOPLE OUT THE DOOR


HUH... YEAH. THAT'S RIGHT. I THOUGHT WE....
YOU'RE RIGHT

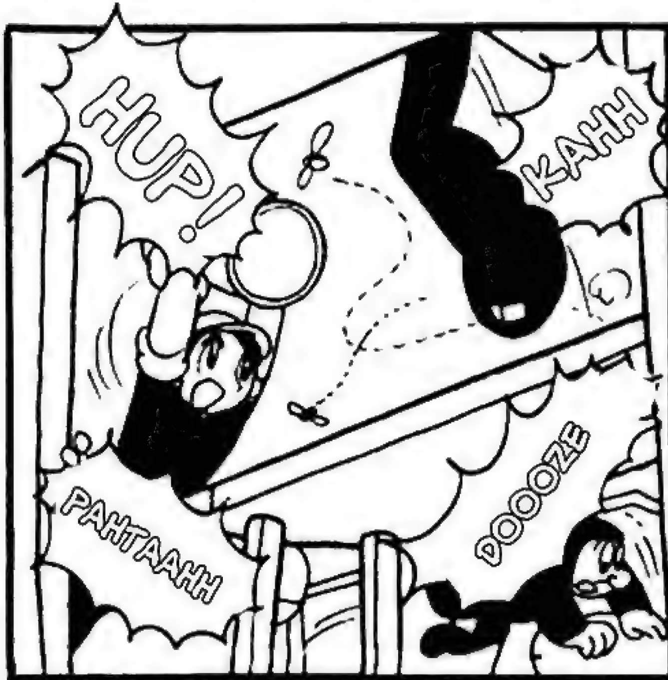

HMM... THERE'S GOT TO BE A BETTER WAY


LET'S JOIN FORCES AND FIGHT TOGETHER
OKAY, LET'S THINK UP ANOTHER PLAN



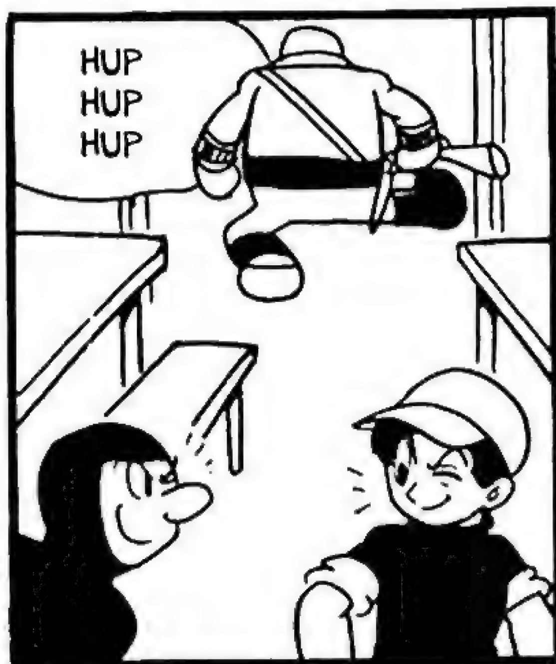


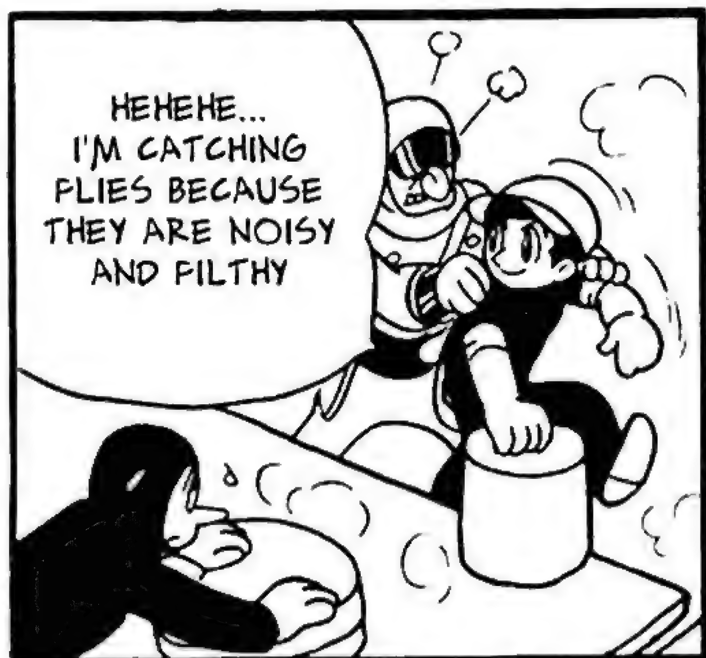

I WONDER ......


HUP!
KAHH
PAHTAAHH
DOOOZE

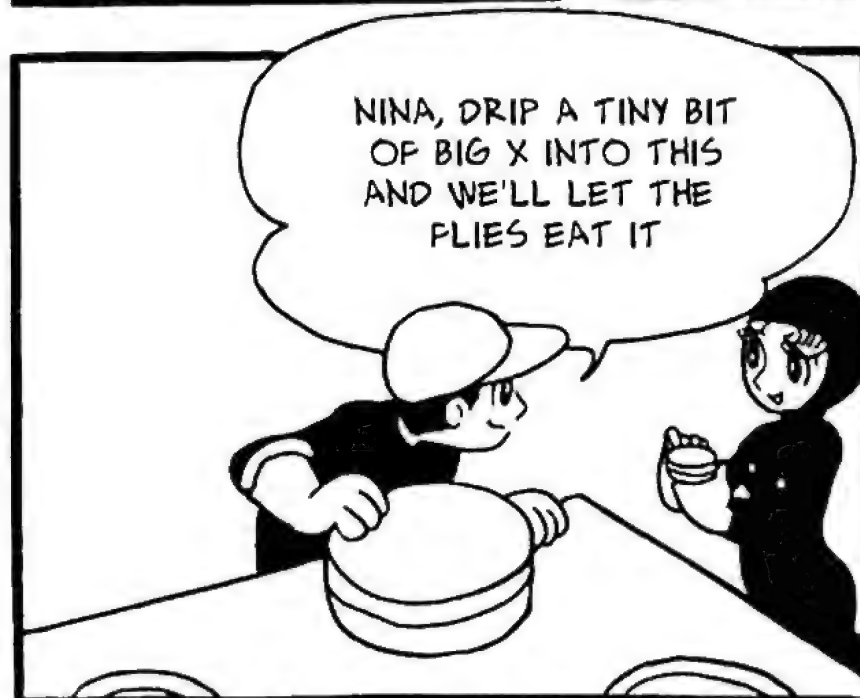

HEY GUYS... I NEED TO CATCH A FLY AND I NEED IT ALIVE


THAT'S IT!


HUP HUP HUP

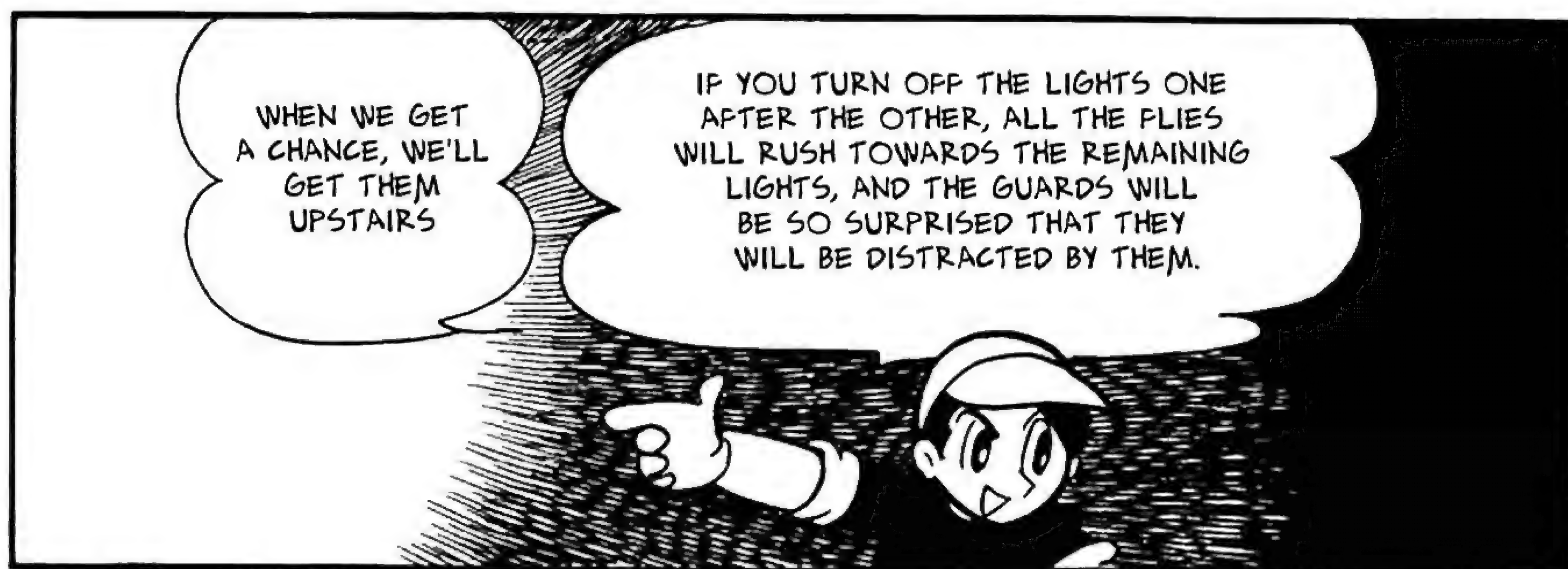

HEHEHE... I'M CATCHING FLIES BECAUSE THEY ARE NOISY AND FILTHY

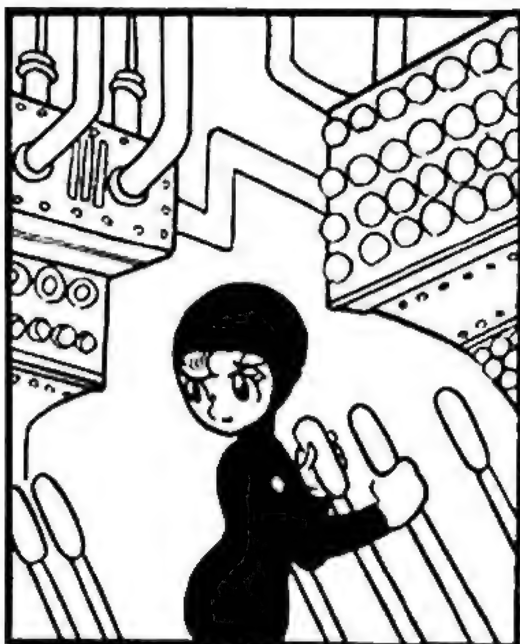

WHAT THE HELL'S THE MATTER WITH YOU?

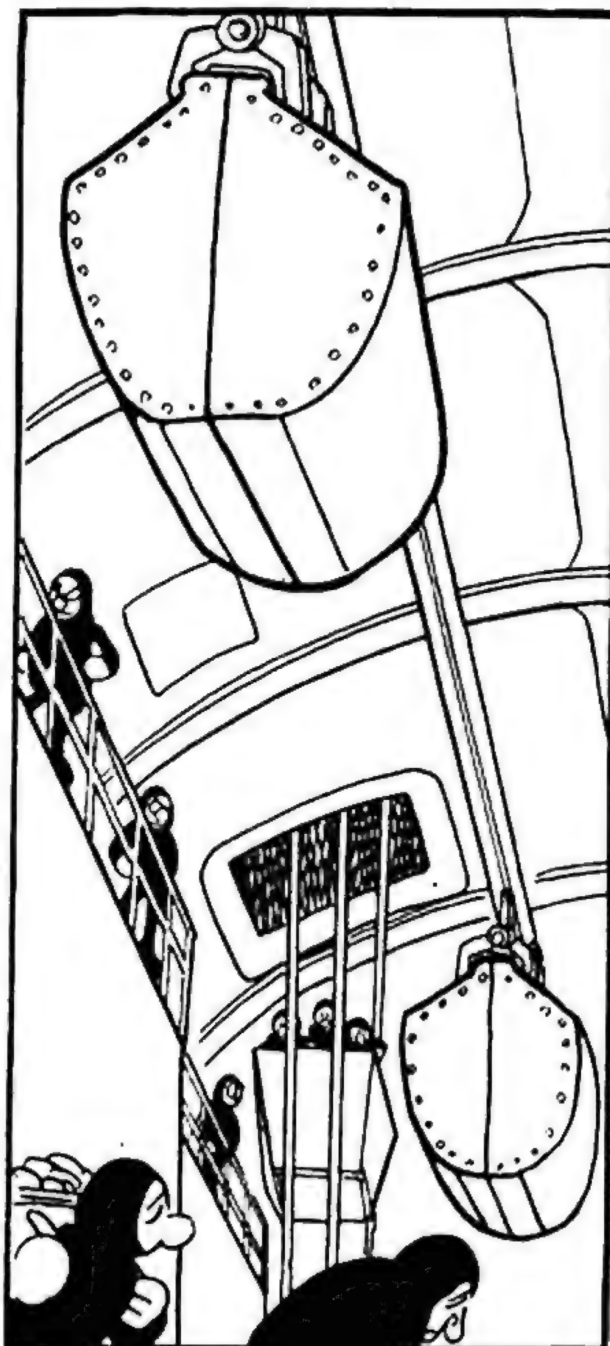

NINA, DRIP A TINY BIT OF BIG X INTO THIS AND WE'LL LET THE FLIES EAT IT

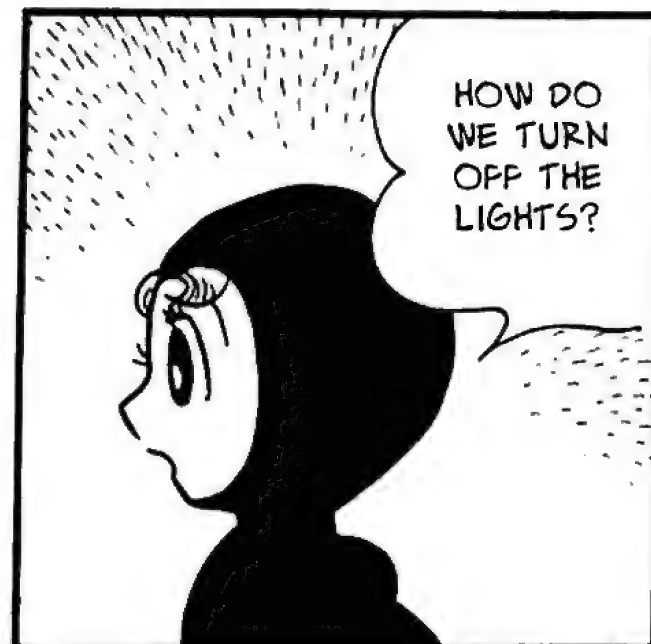

ALL RIGHT... WHEN YOU CATCH IT, PUT IT IN HERE

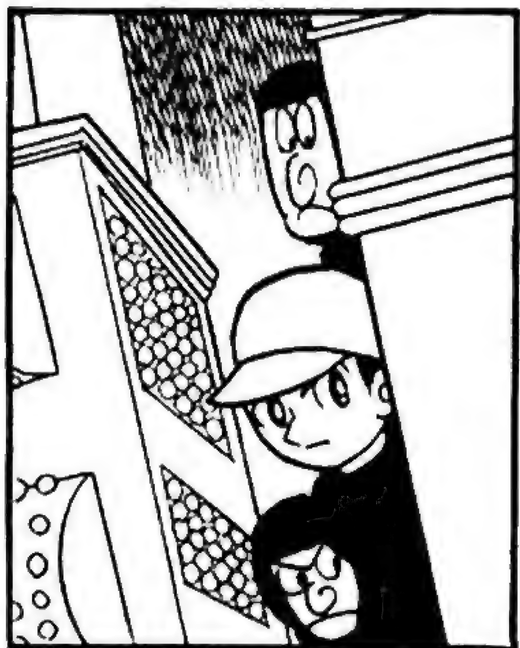

INSECTS HAVE A TENDENCY TO FLY TOWARDS BRIGHT LIGHTS...
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH IT, AKRIA?


WHEN WE GET A CHANCE, WE'LL GET THEM UPSTAIRS
IF YOU TURN OFF THE LIGHTS ONE AFTER THE OTHER, ALL THE FLIES WILL RUSH TOWARDS THE REMAINING LIGHTS, AND THE GUARDS WILL BE SO SURPRISED THAT THEY WILL BE DISTRACTED BY THEM.

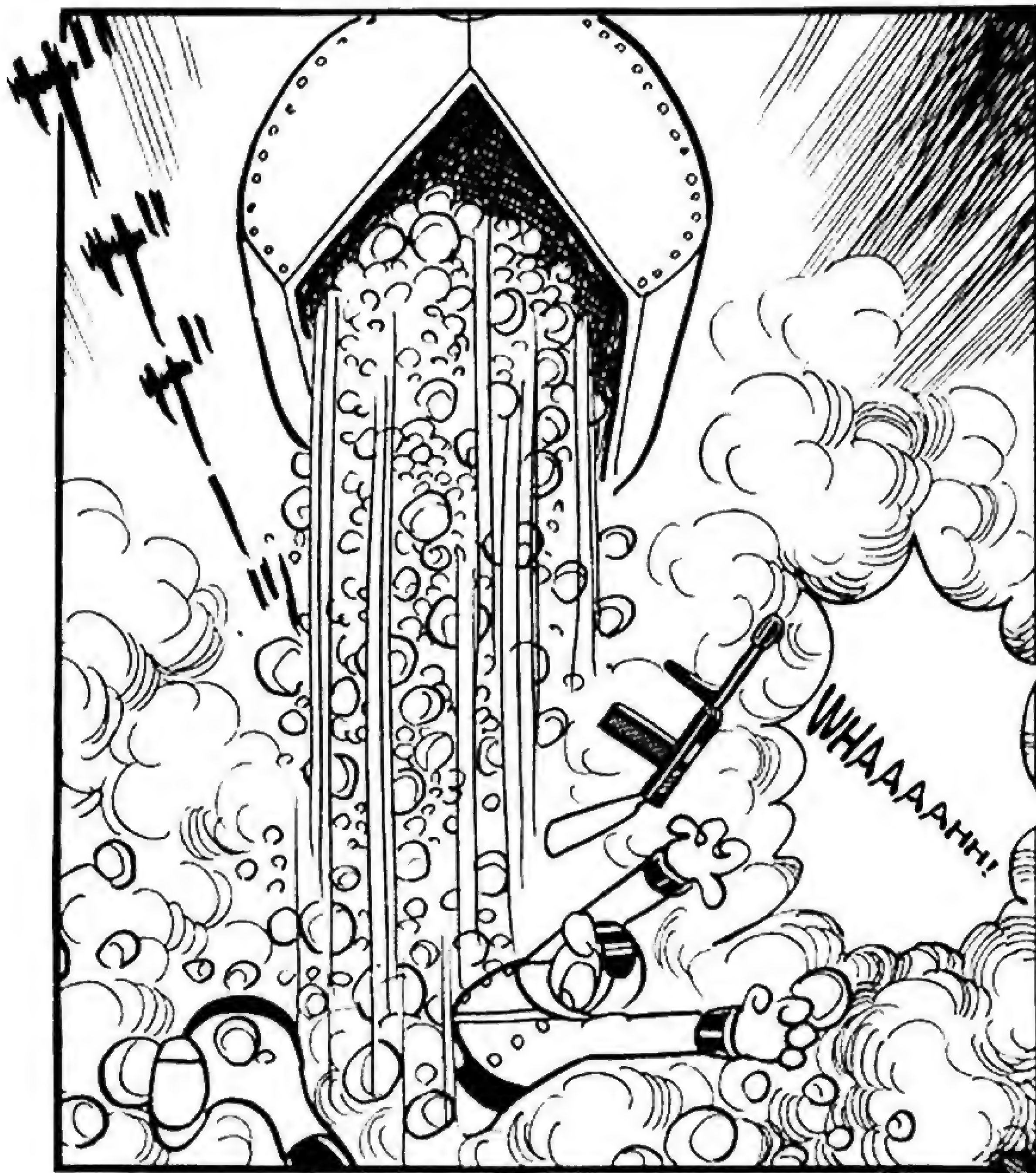


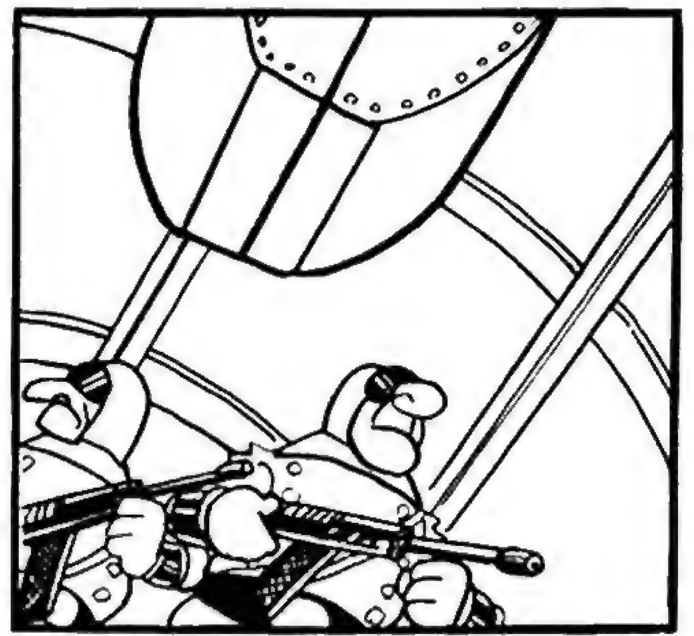



HOW DO WE TURN OFF THE LIGHTS?



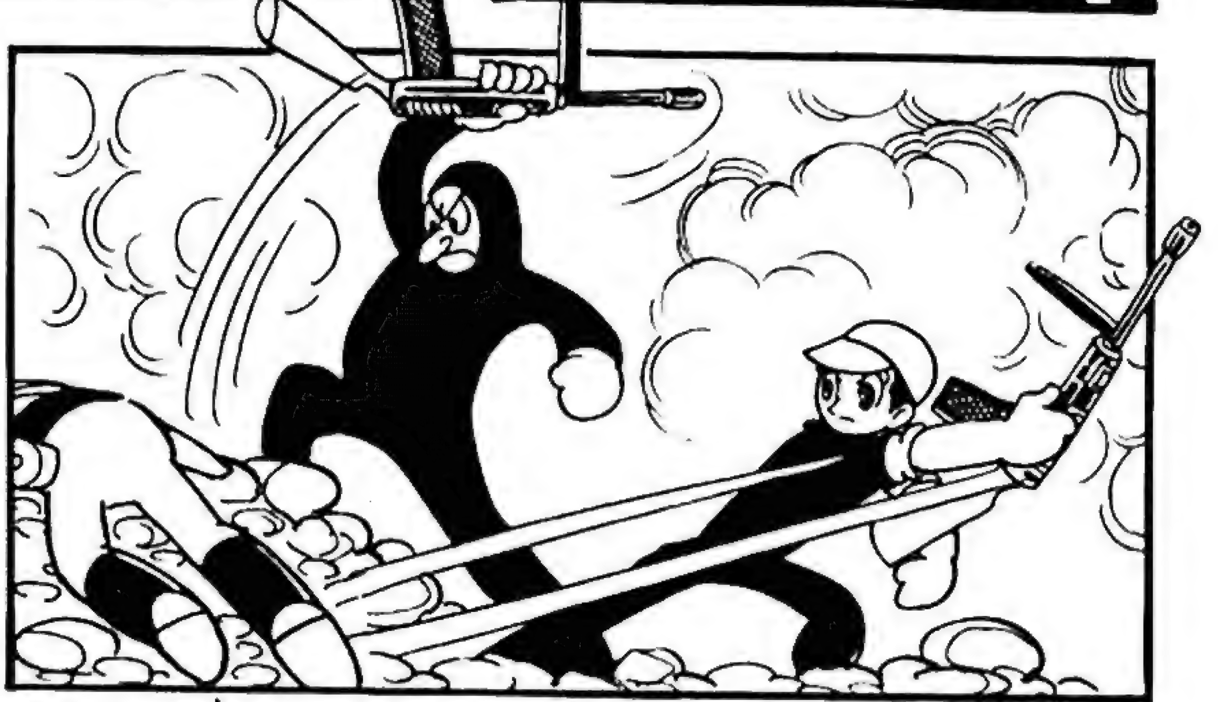

I'LL NEED TO TAKE THAT GUN OFF HIS HANDS

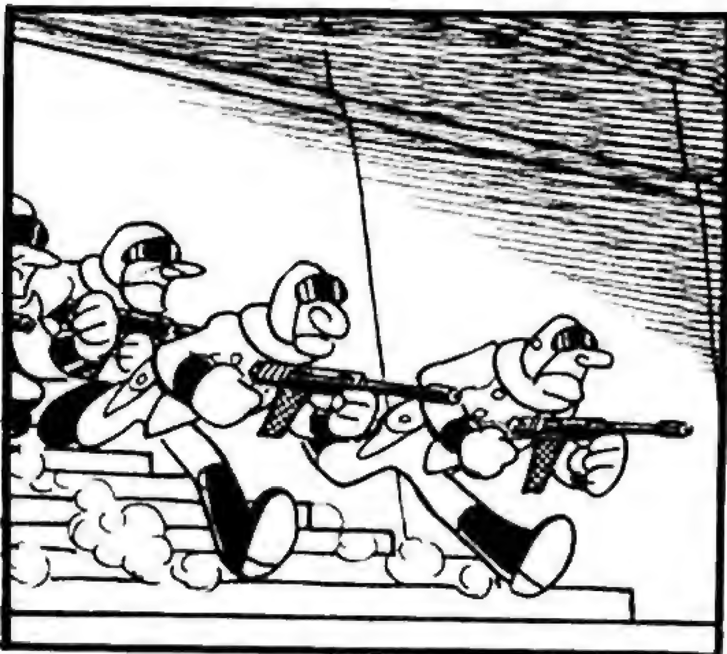

ザザザーッ
WHAAAAAHH!



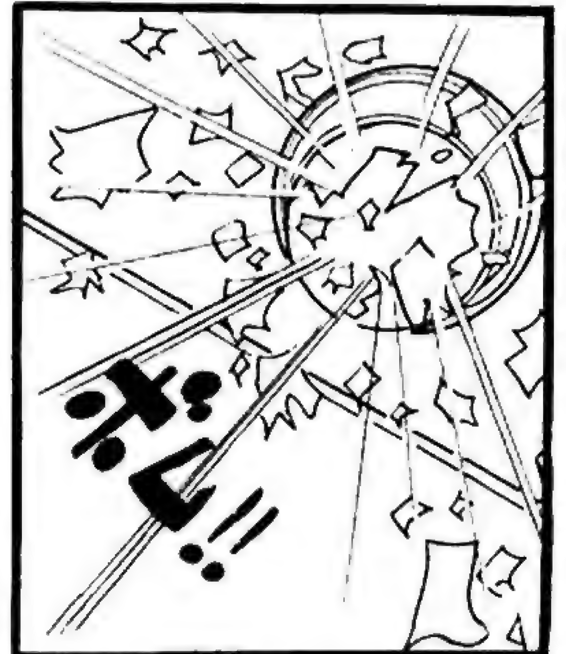



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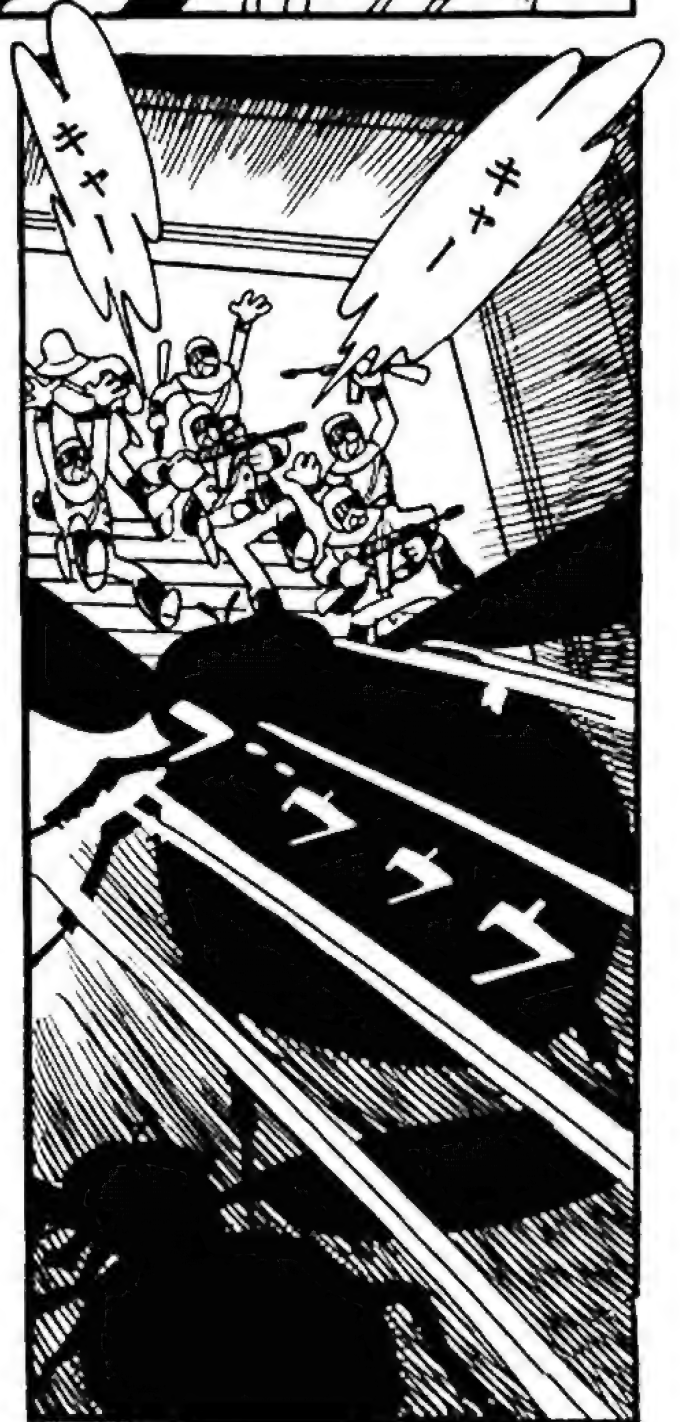


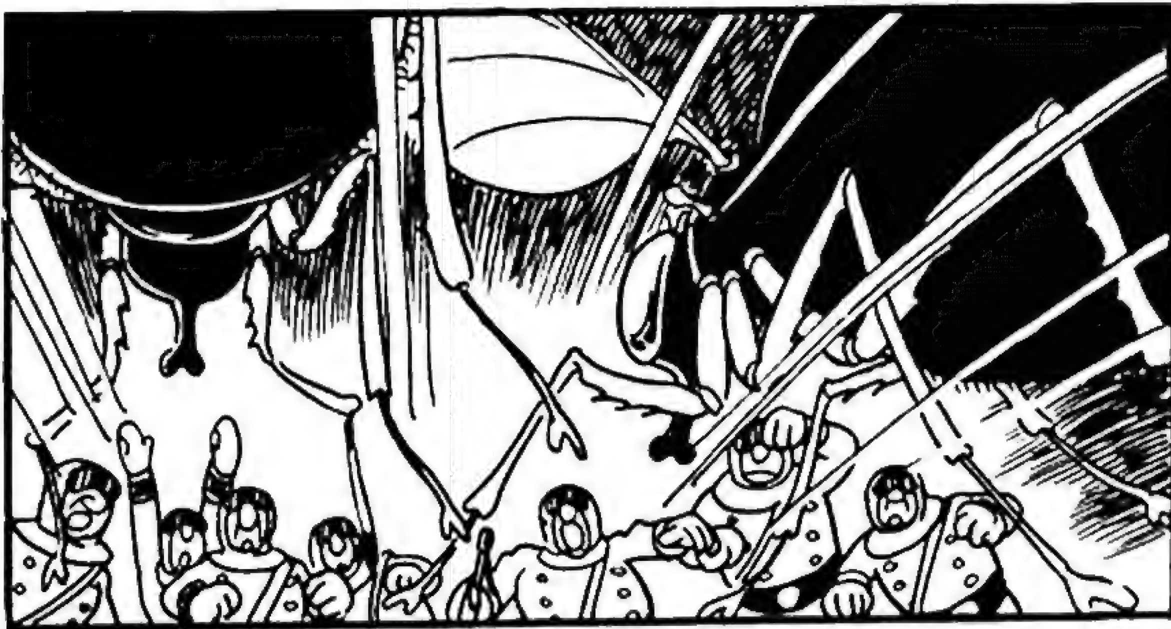

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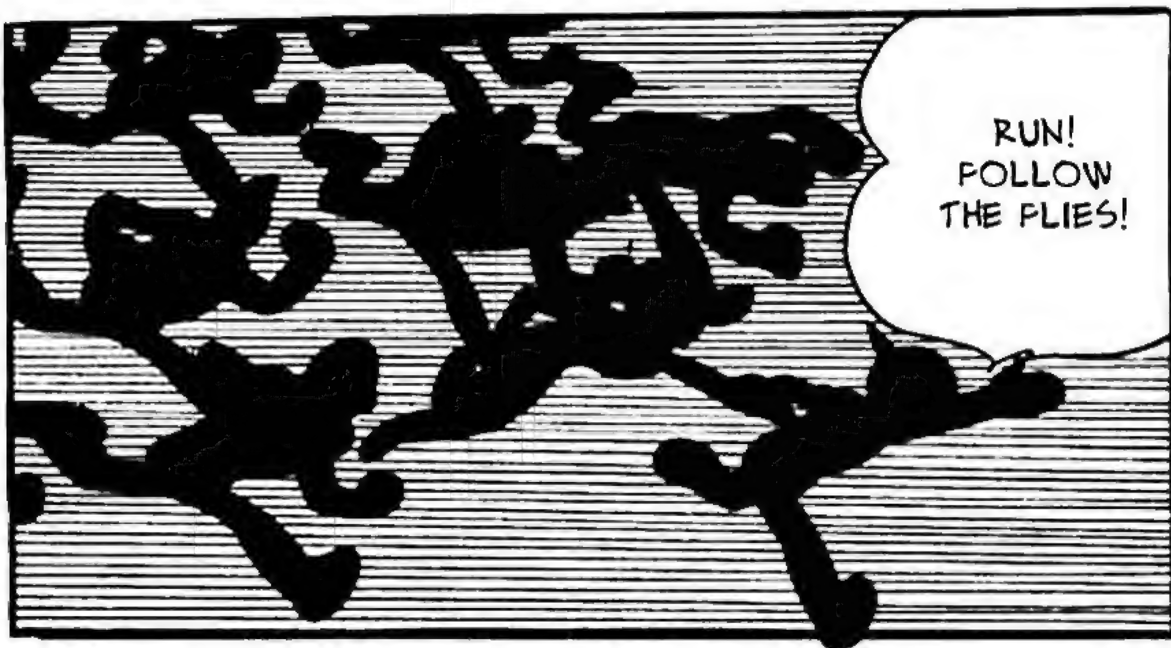

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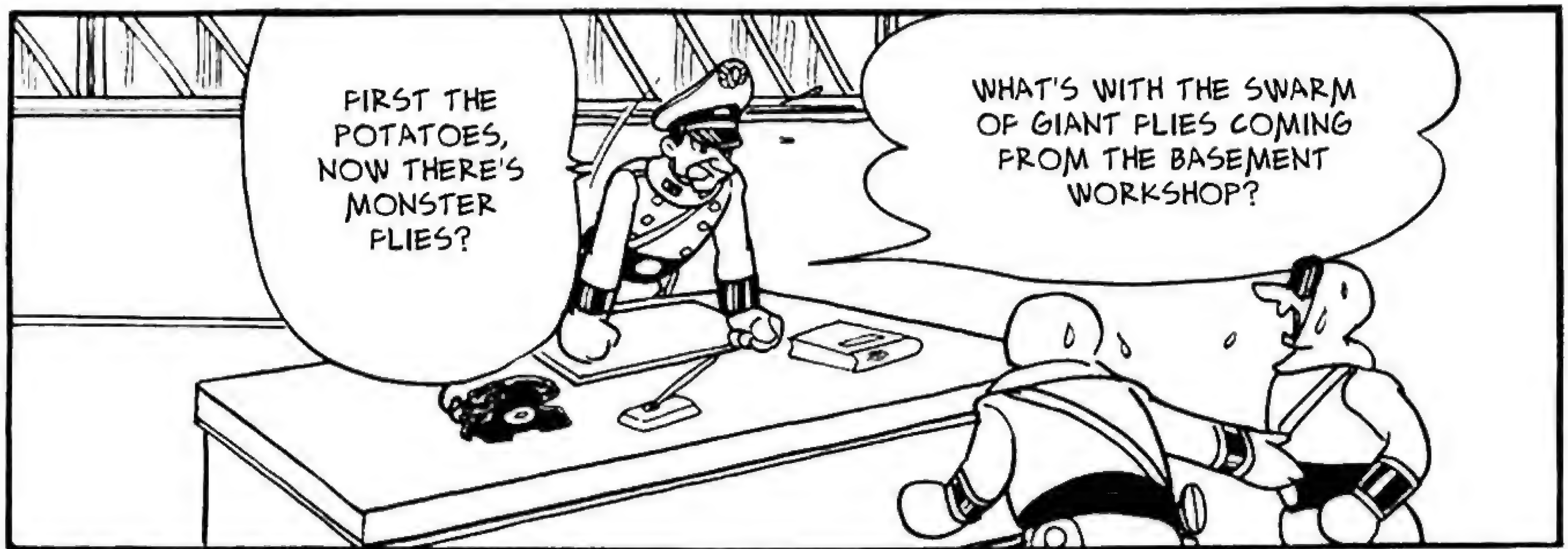

BE FREE!

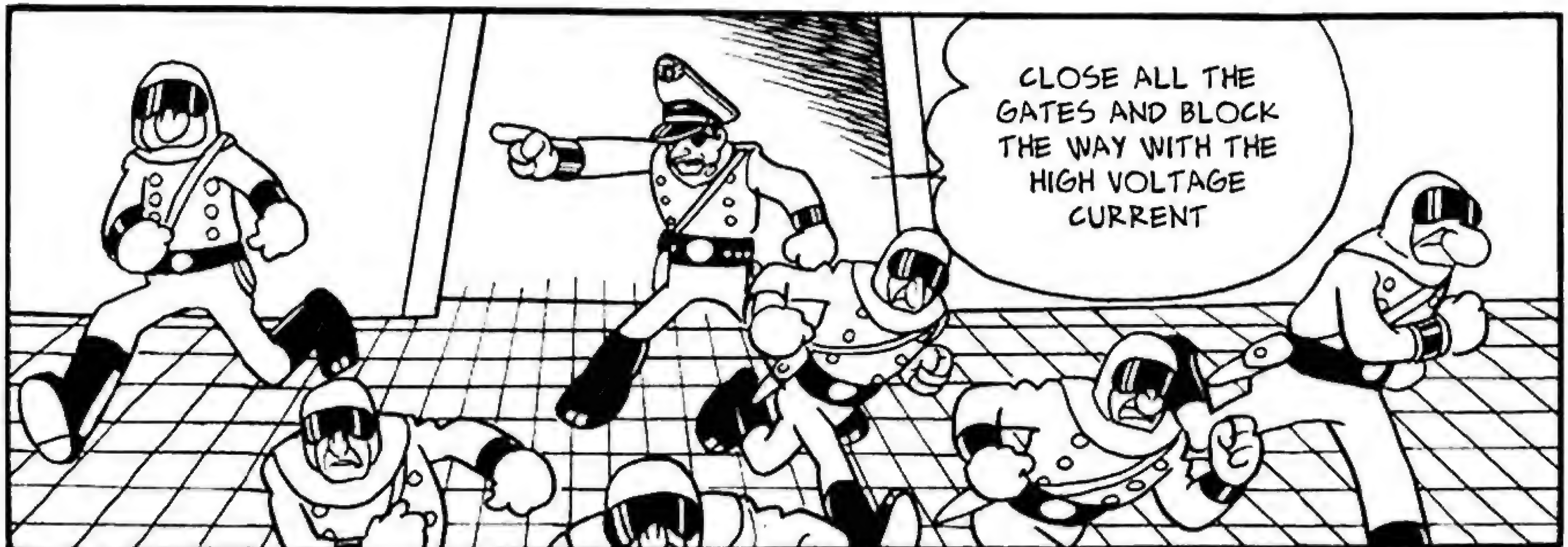


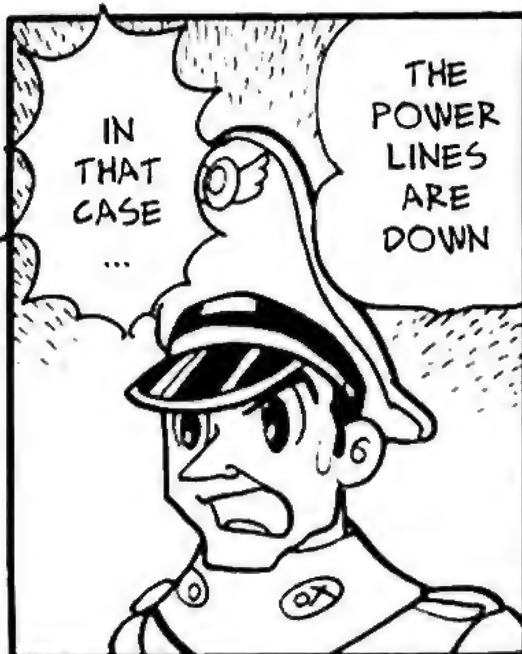

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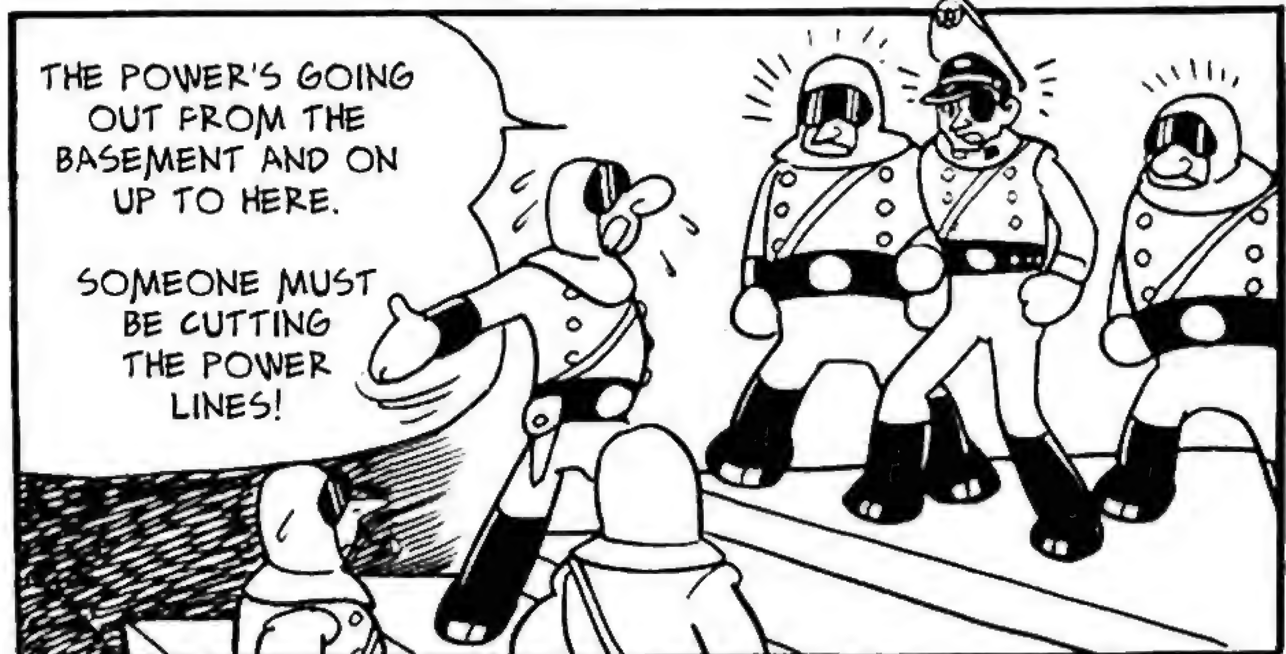


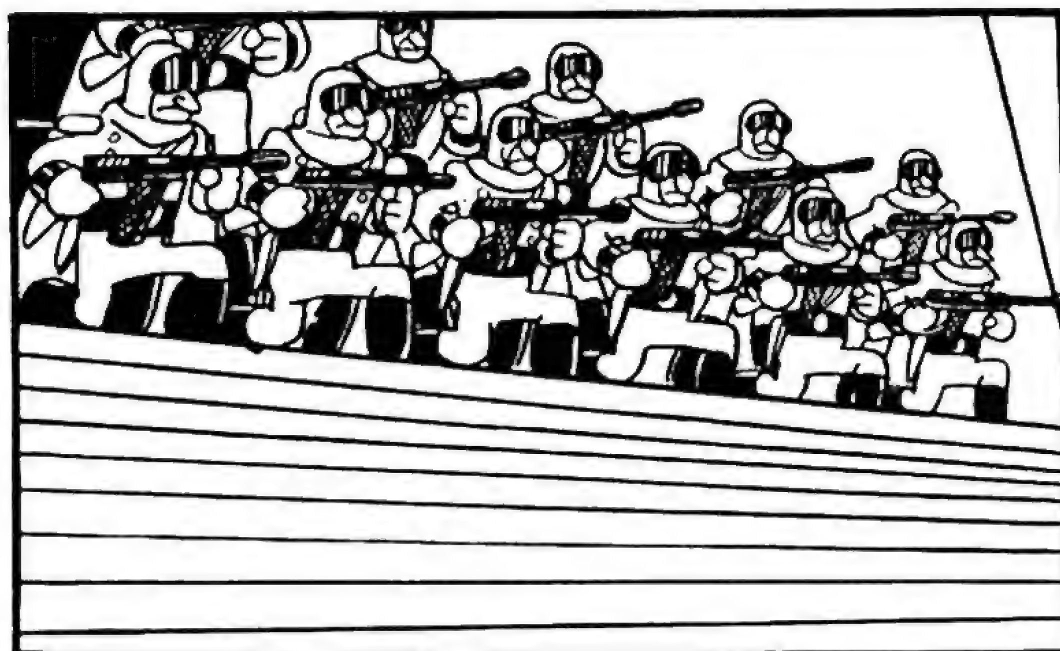

RUN! FOLLOW THE FLIES!

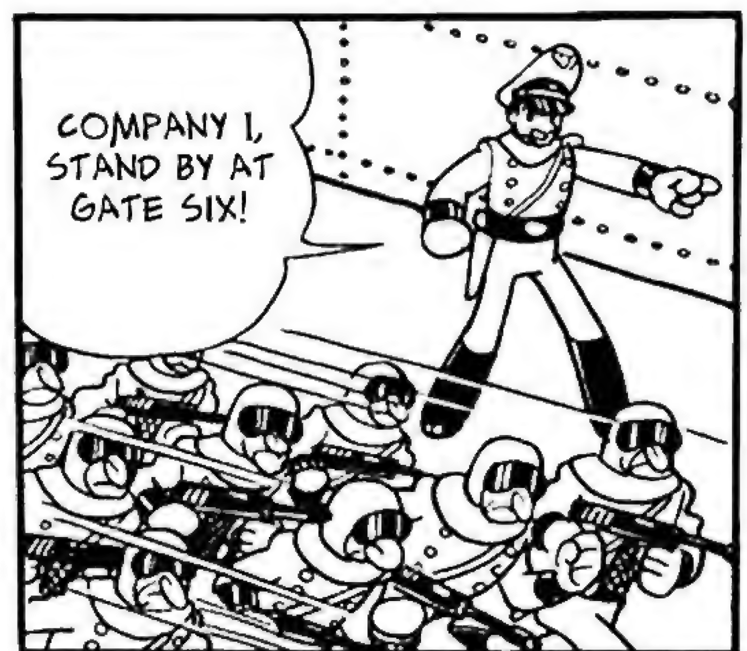

FIRST THE POTATOES, NOW THERE'S MONSTER FLIES?
WHAT'S WITH THE SWARM OF GIANT FLIES COMING FROM THE BASEMENT WORKSHOP?

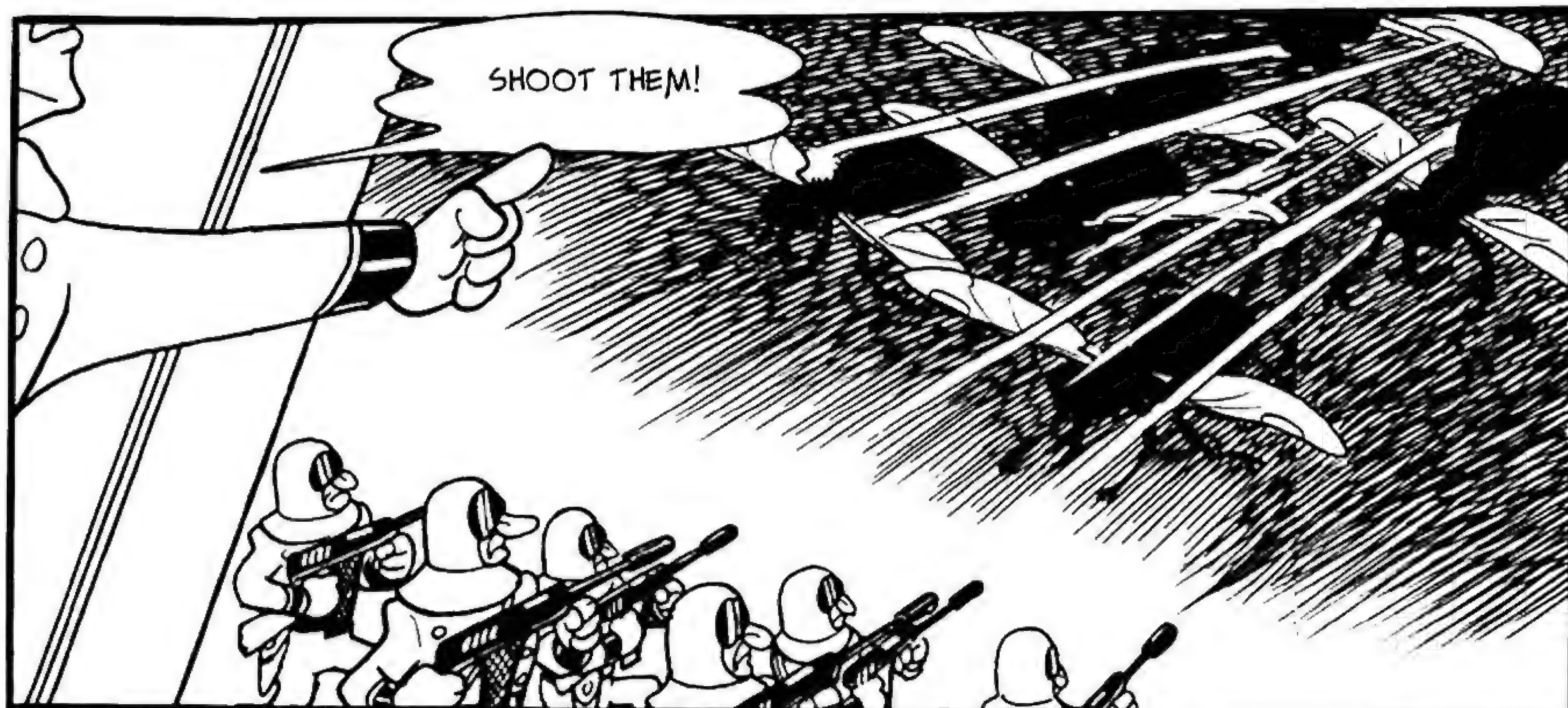

CLOSE ALL THE GATES AND BLOCK THE WAY WITH THE HIGH VOLTAGE CURRENT


THE POWER LINES ARE DOWN
IN THAT CASE ...

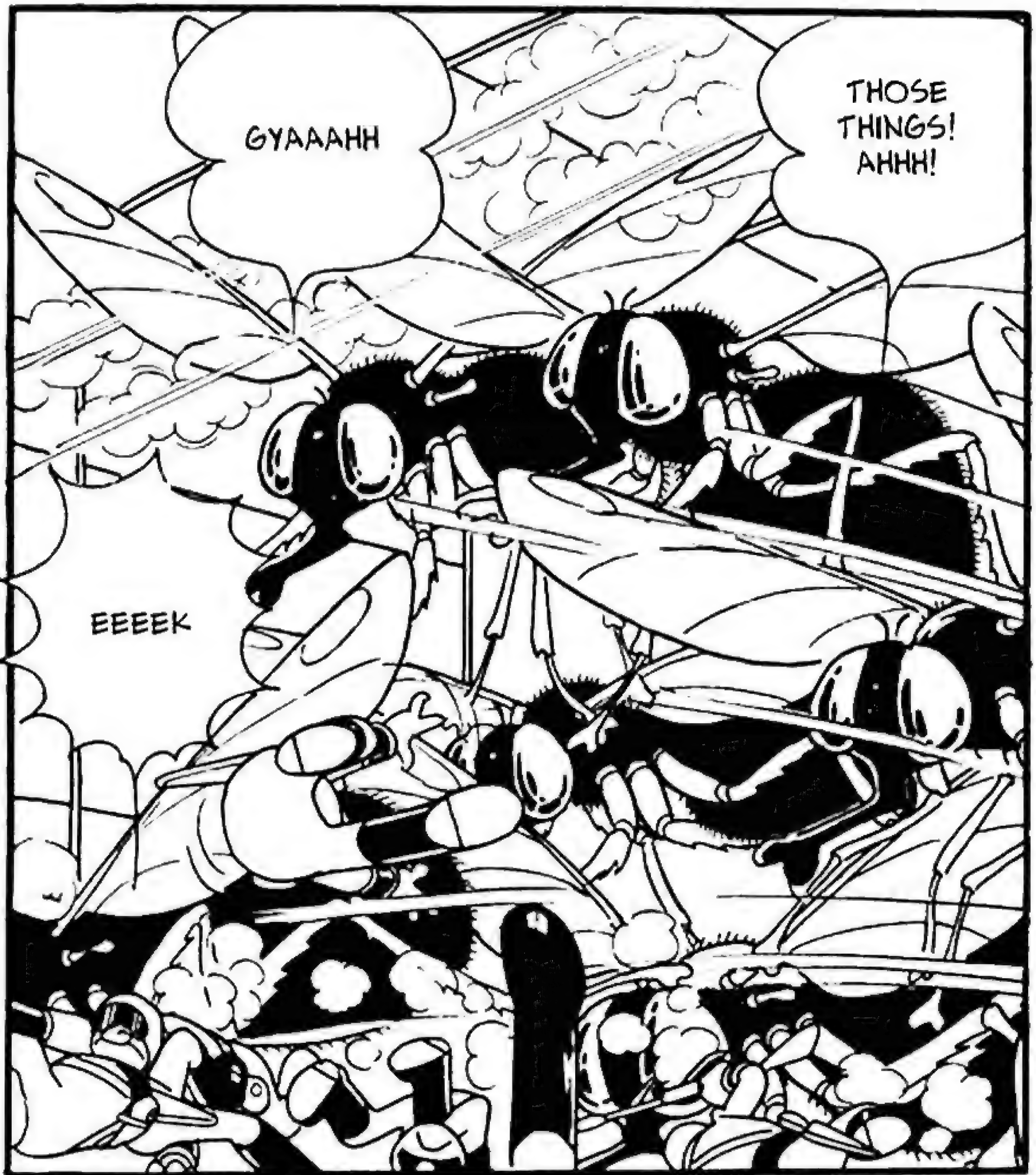

THE POWER'S GOING OUT FROM THE BASEMENT AND ON UP TO HERE.
SOMEONE MUST BE CUTTING THE POWER LINES!



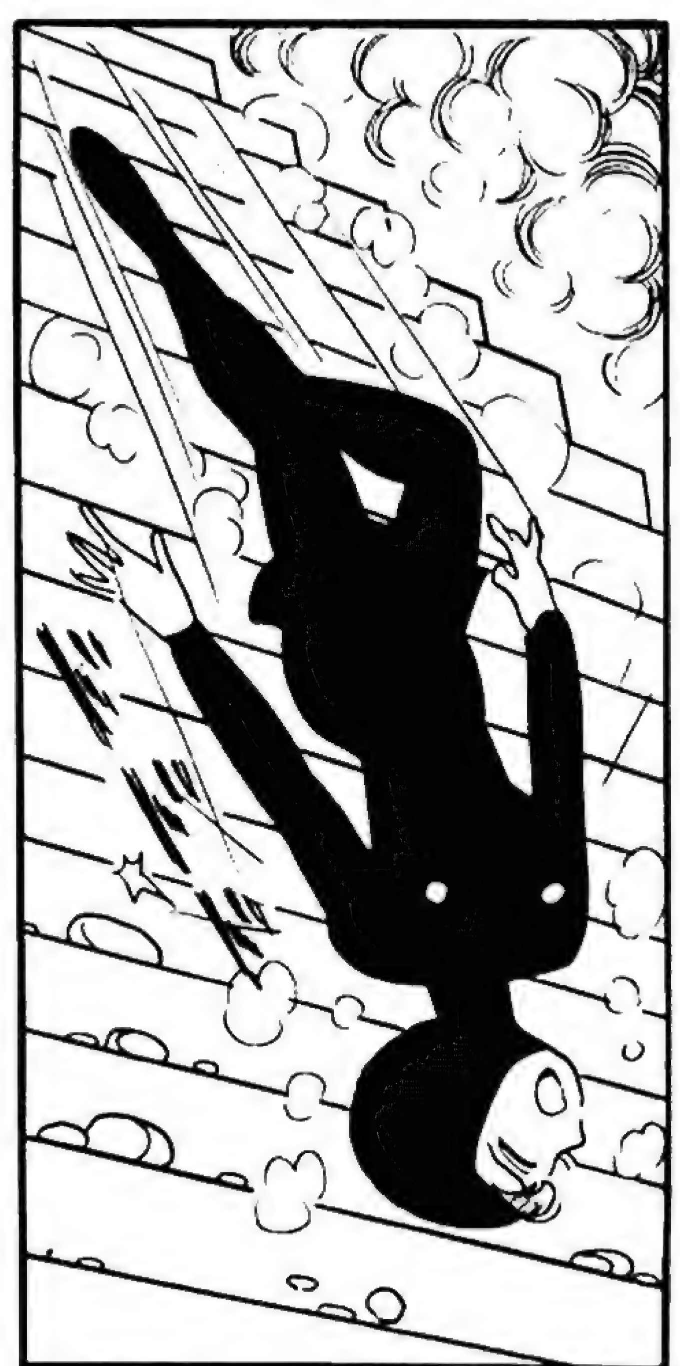

COMPANY I, STAND BY AT GATE SIX!


SHOOT THEM!



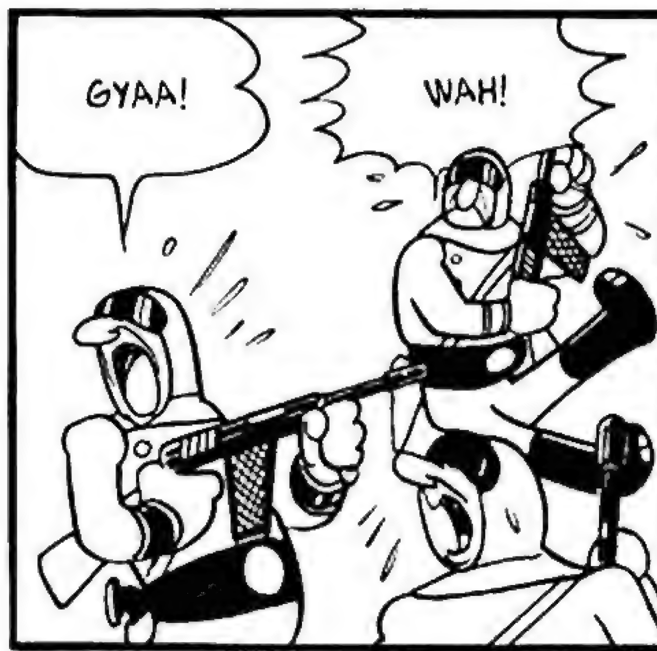

THOSE THINGS! AHHH!
GYAAAHH
EEEEK


OH! NINA!



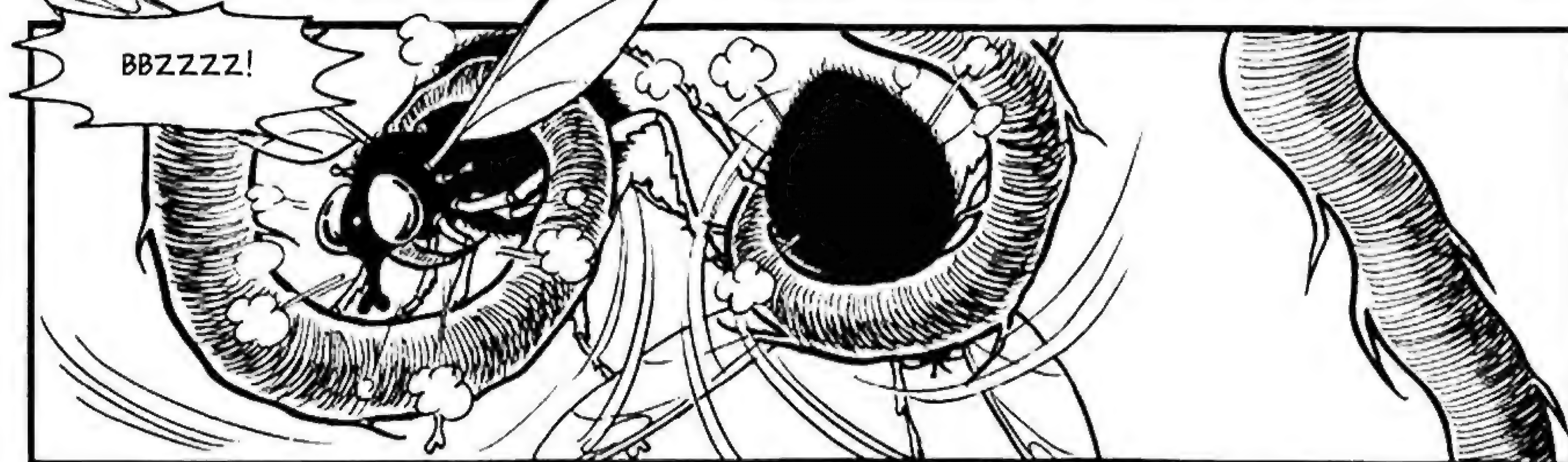

NINA!!!


DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME... JUST GO!

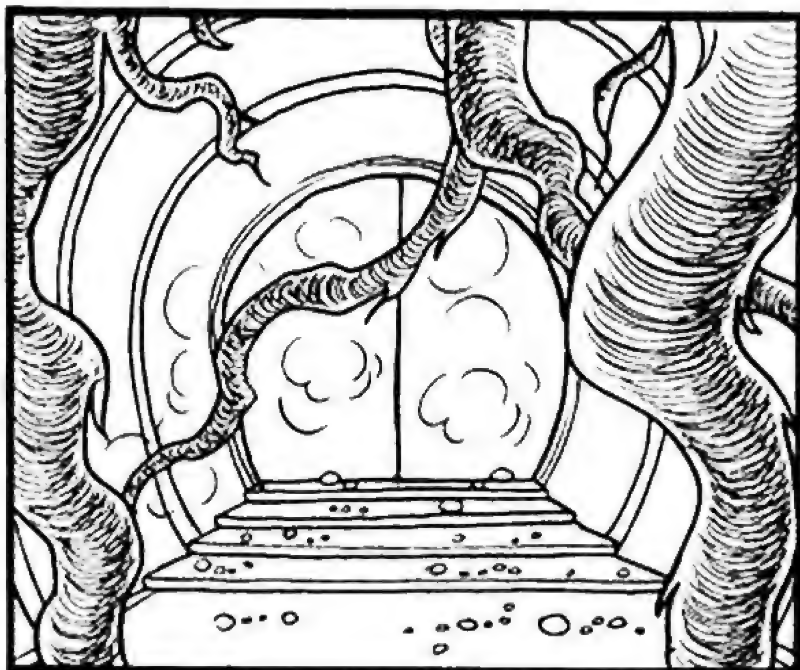

WAH!
GYAA!



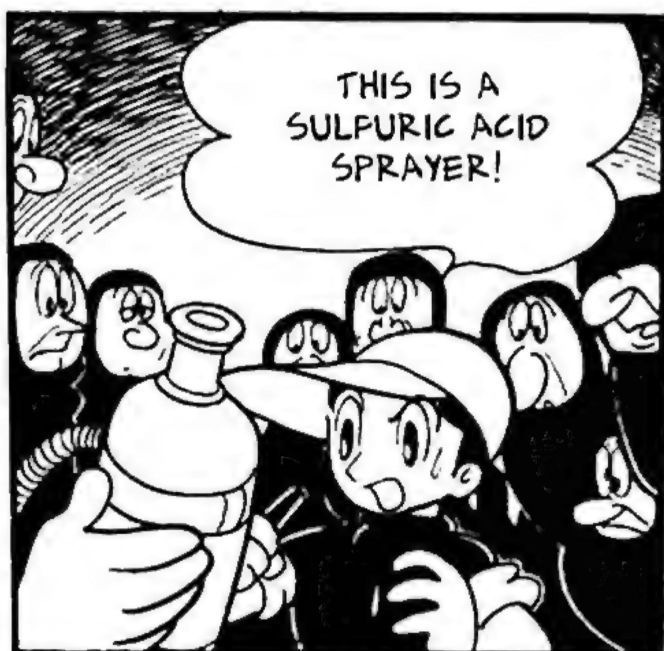
OH NO! THE POTATO MONSTER IS IN HERE!



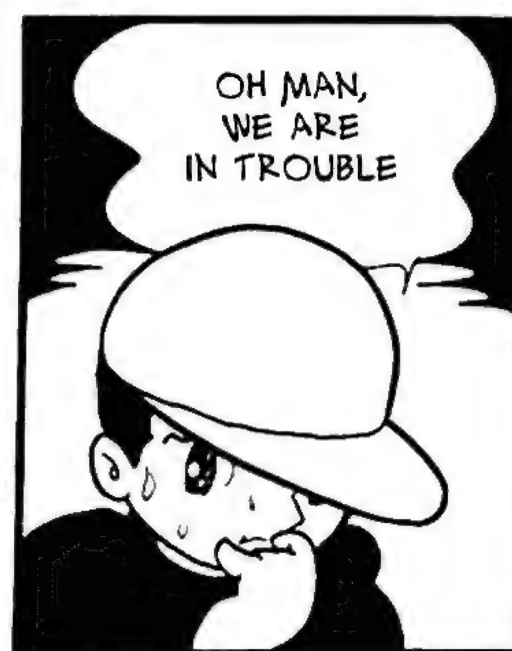


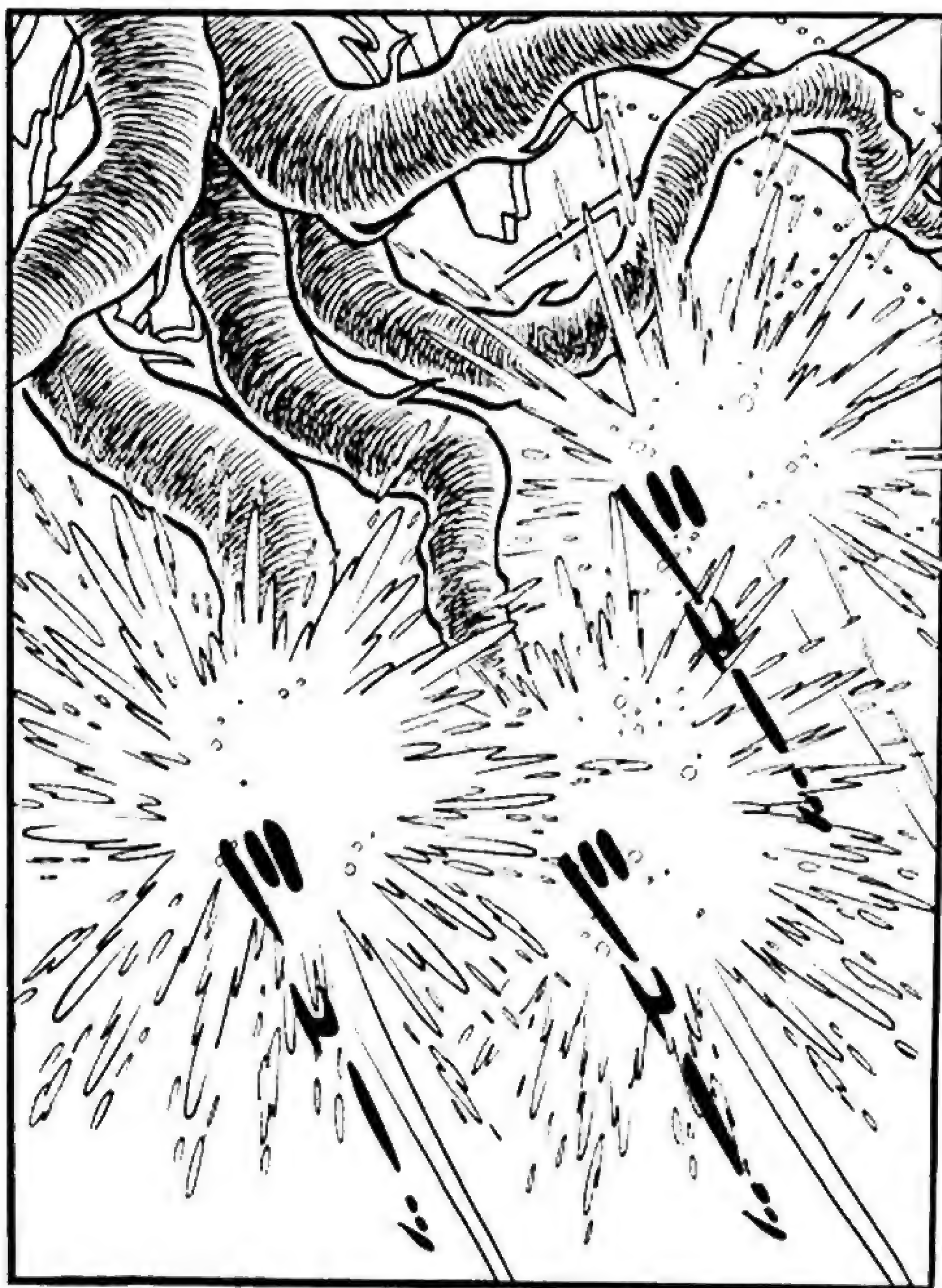



WE'RE ALMOST TO THE EXIT AND YET WE CAN'T GO ANY FURTHER!
WE CAN'T LET THIS HAPPEN!


THIS IS A SULFURIC ACID SPRAYER!


HUH! WHAT'S THIS?

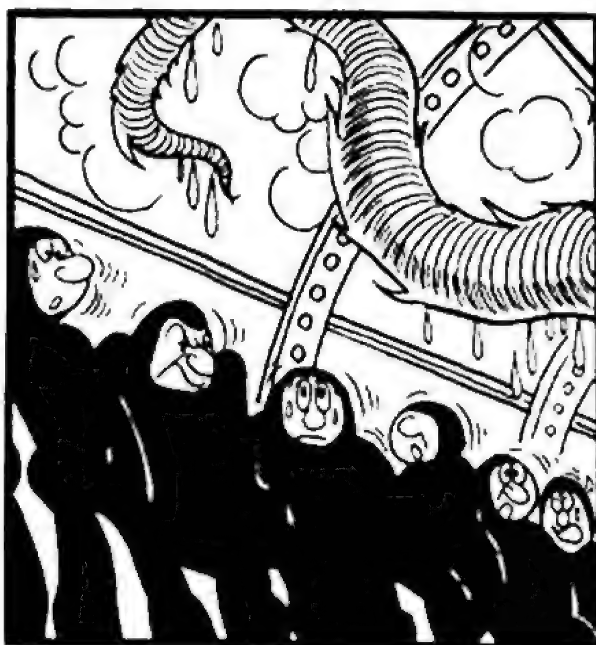

OH MAN, WE ARE IN TROUBLE

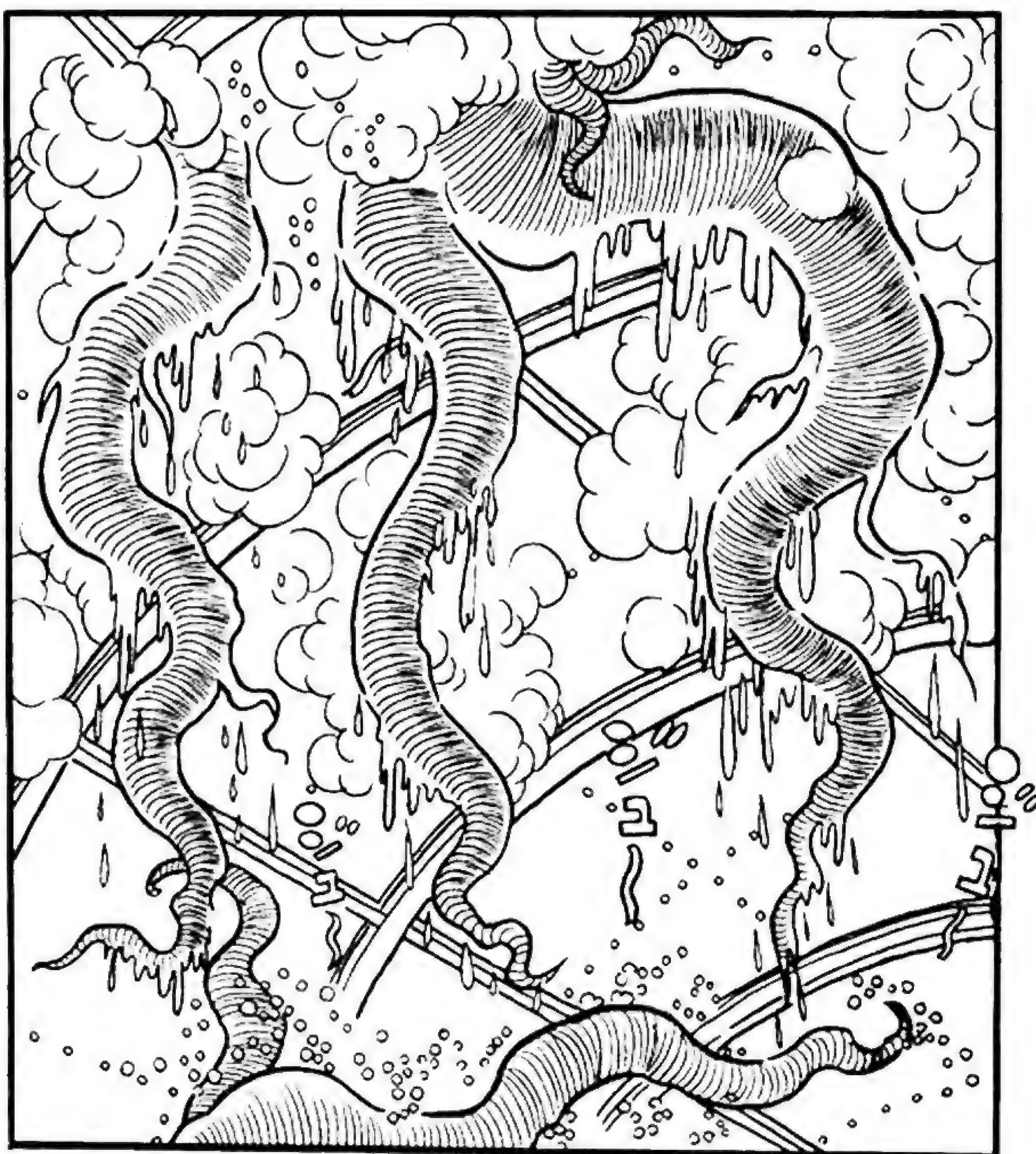


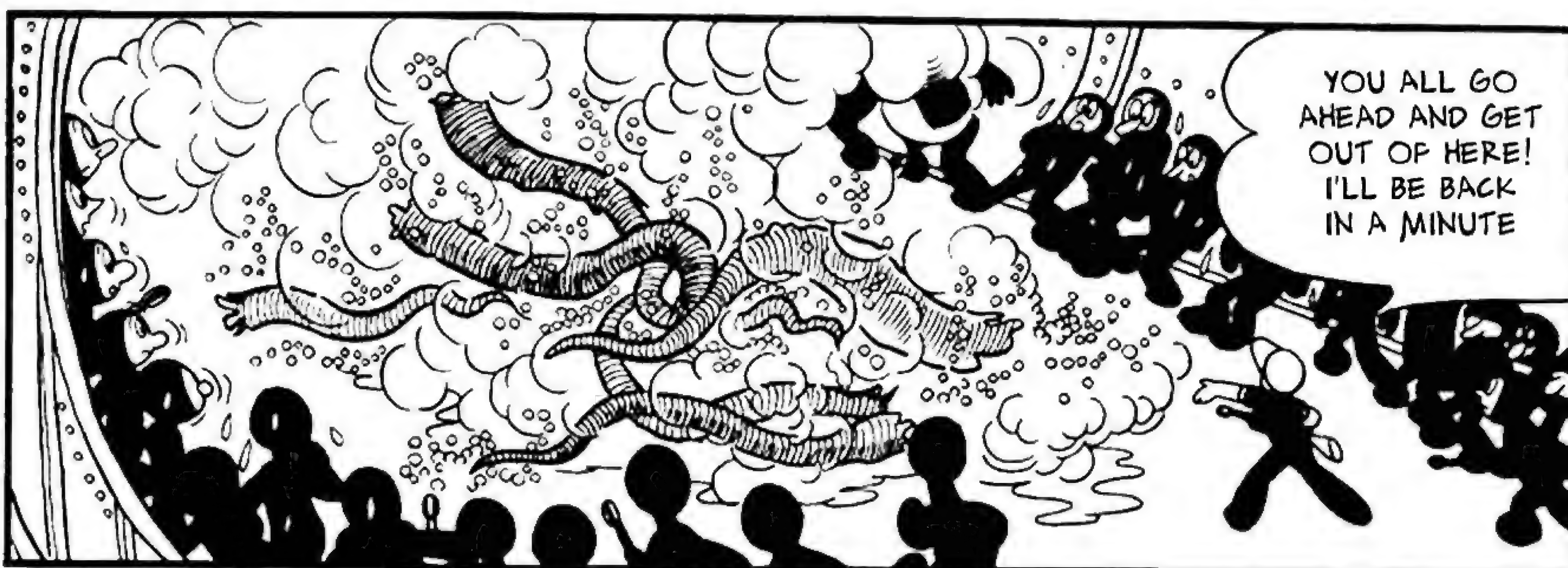

EVERYONE GRAB A SPRAYER... MAYBE THIS WILL HELP


FIRE!

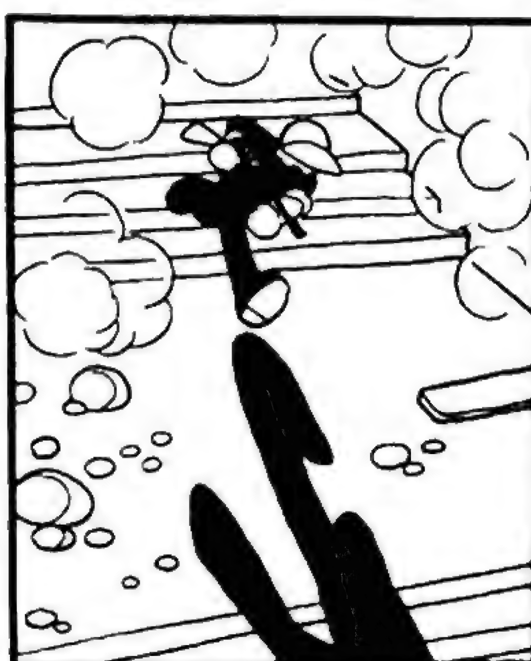

IT'S GOOD! IT'S GOING RIGHT THROUGH THE WALL






YOU ALL GO AHEAD AND GET OUT OF HERE! I'LL BE BACK IN A MINUTE


NINA! I'M COMING!



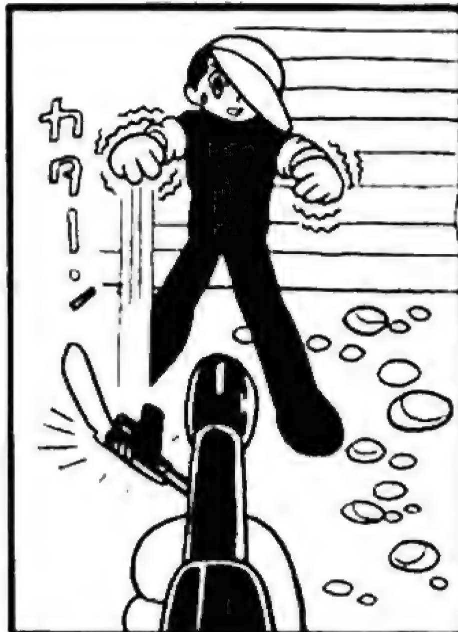



THERE YOU ARE, LITTLE PUNK


NINA!

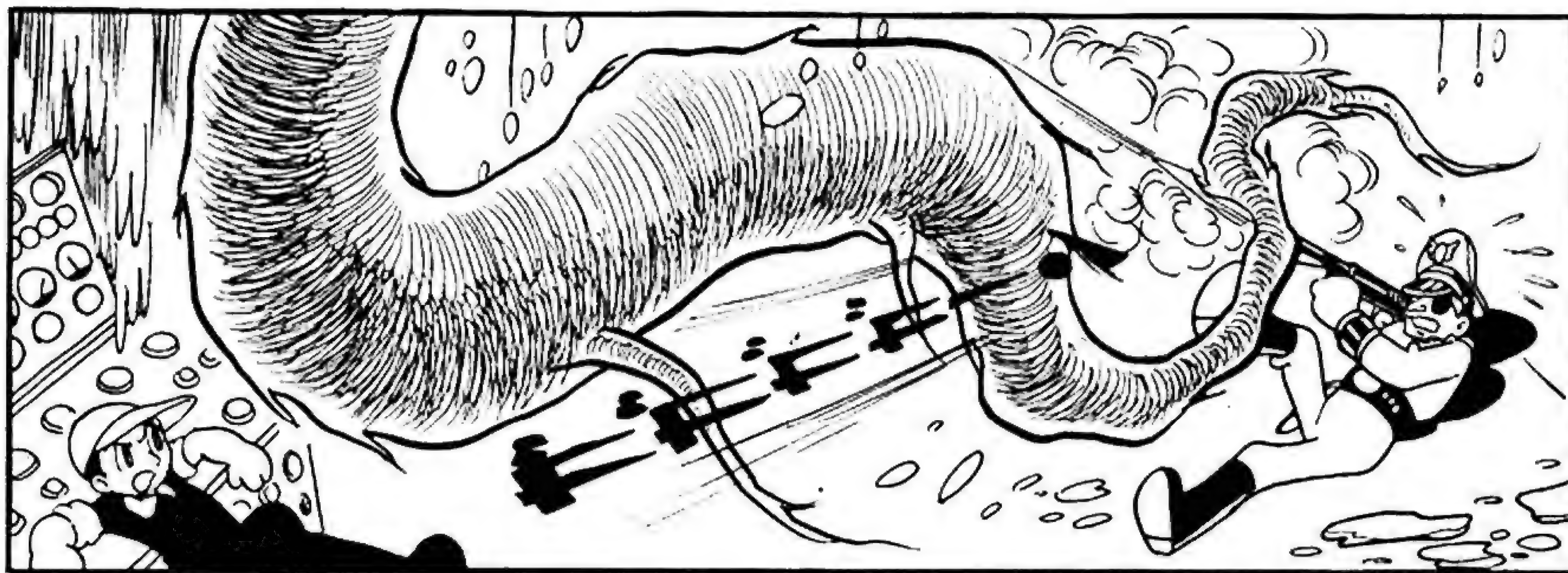

NINA! WHERE DID YOU GO?


I'LL USE EVERY SINGLE BULLET I HAVE TO SHOOT YOU AND THOSE PEOPLE



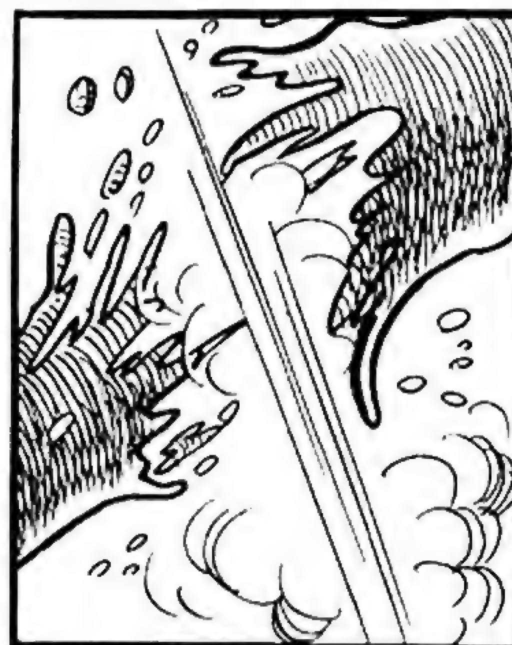

HOW DARE YOU LET THOSE PEOPLE GET AWAY! I'LL NEVER FORGIVE YOU.

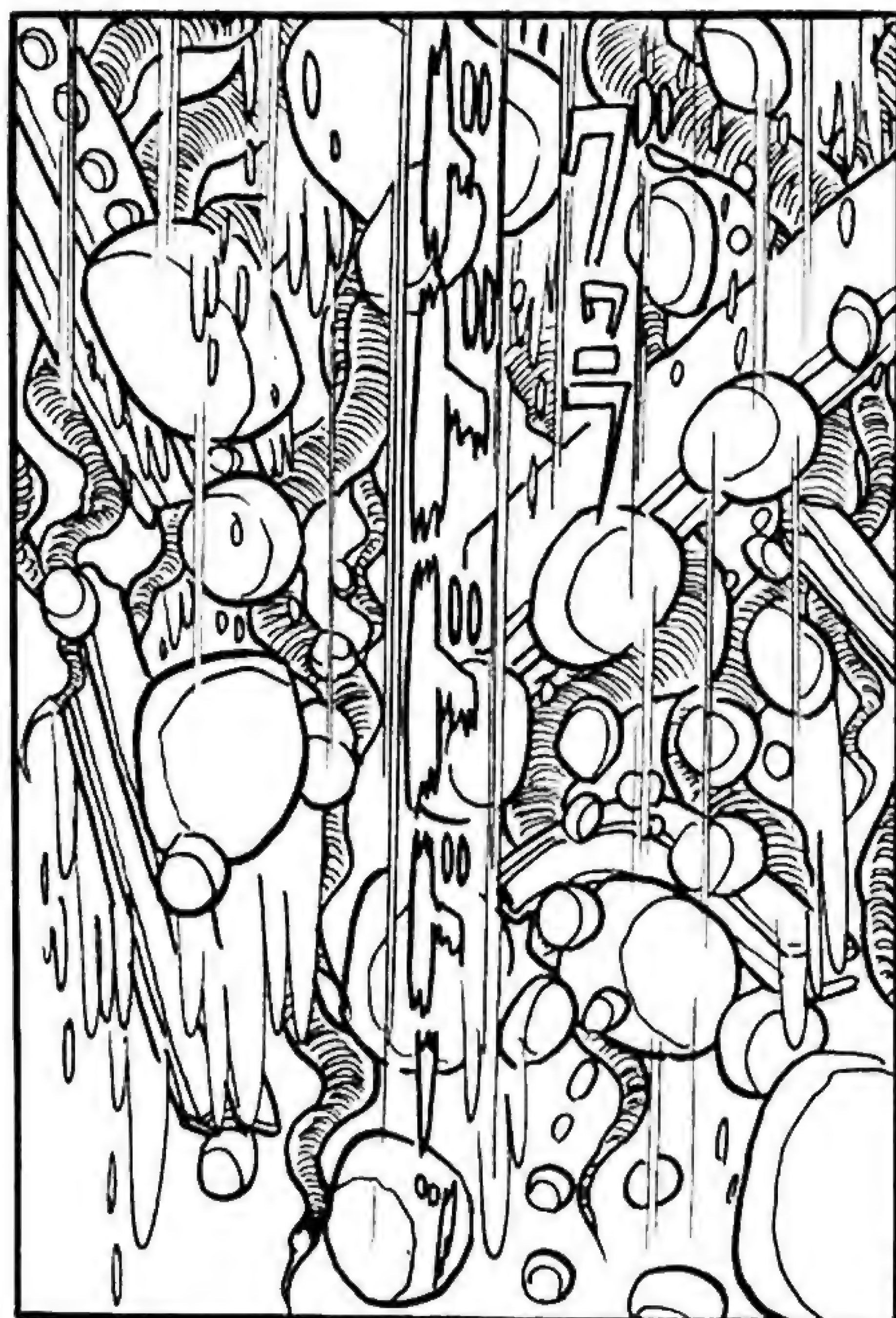
YAAGHHH



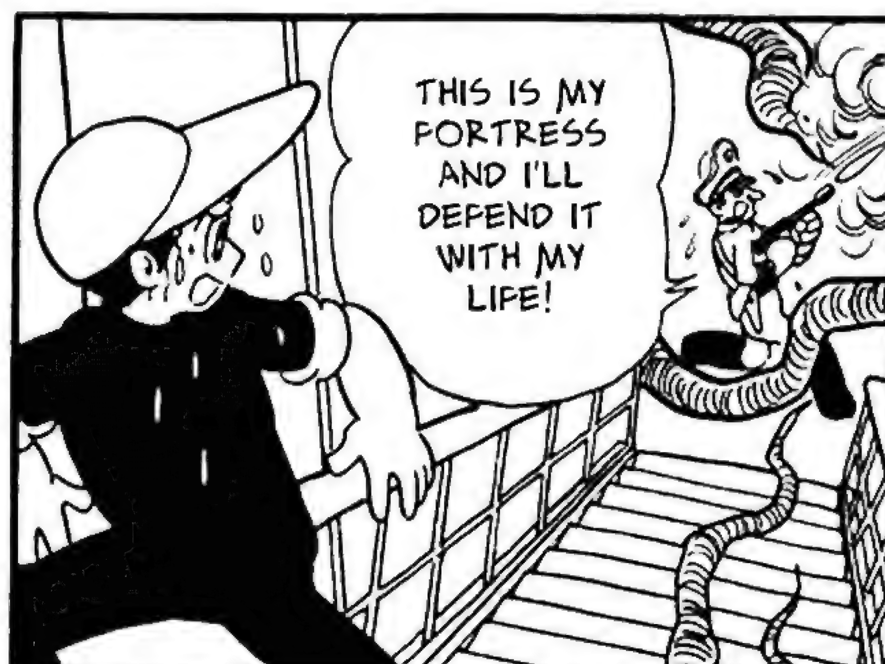









MAJOR ZENDA, THAT'S TOO MUCH FOR YOU TO HANDLE


THIS IS MY FORTRESS AND I'LL DEFEND IT WITH MY LIFE!

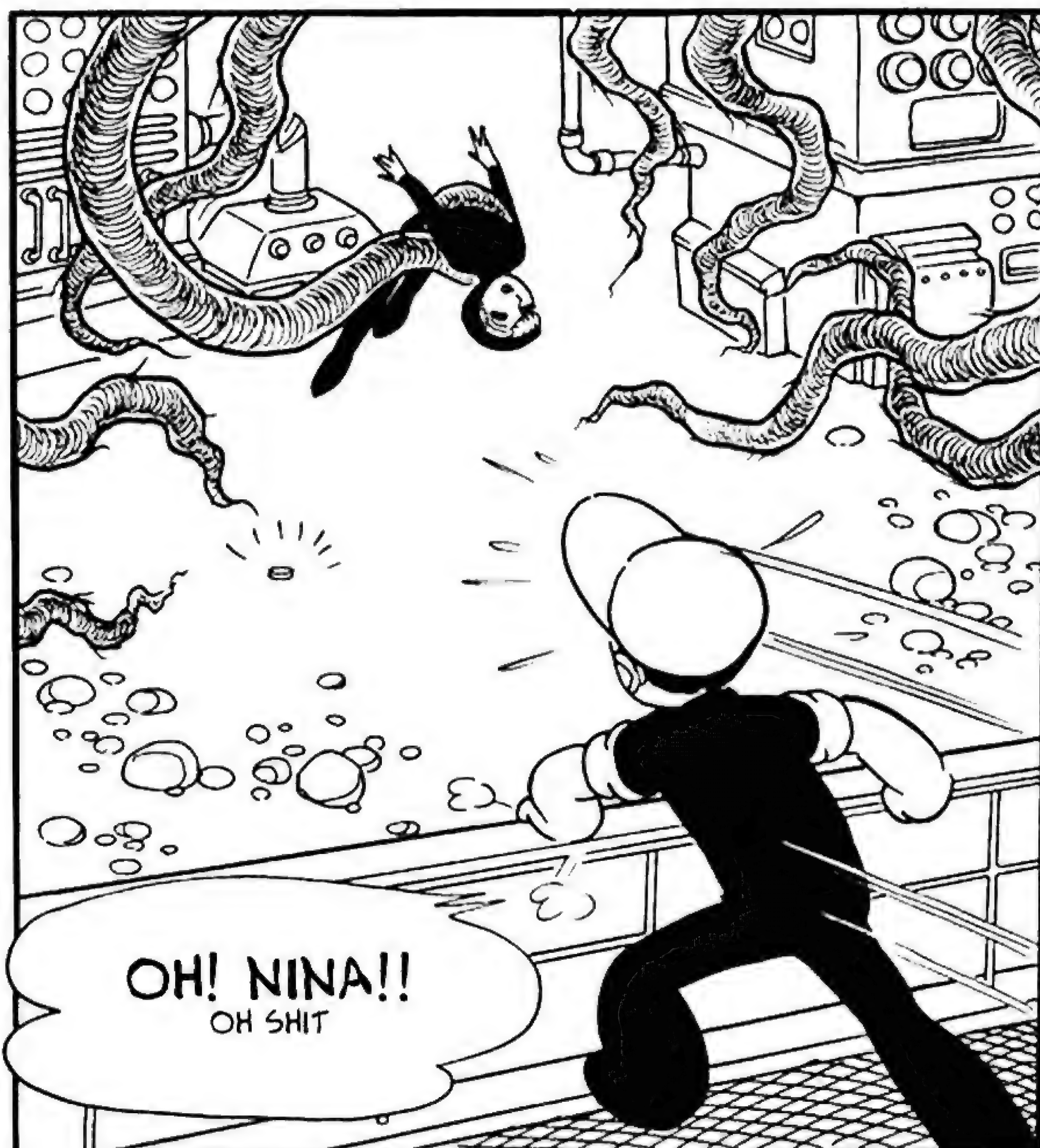

OH SHIT




NOT FAR

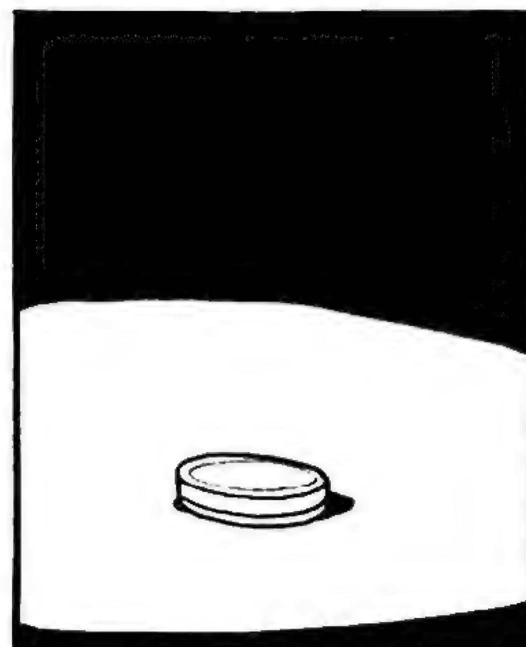

AKIRA!
NINA, WHERE ARE YOU?

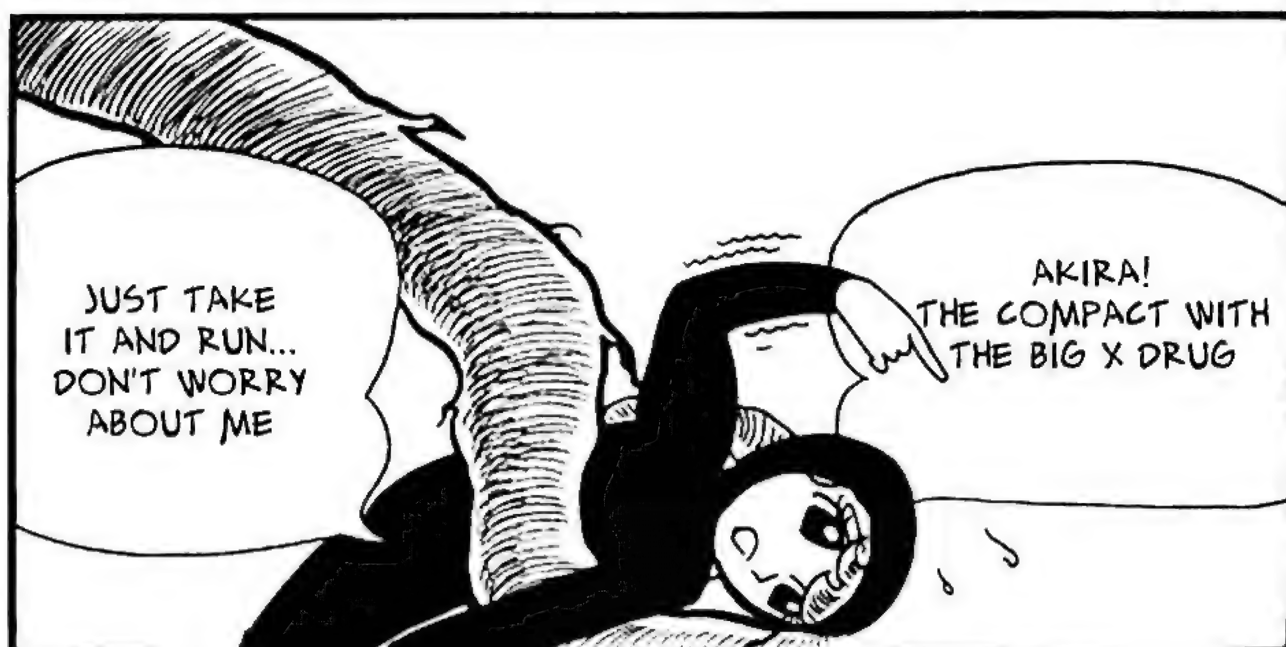

NINA!


OH! NINA!!
OH SHIT


I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE, AKIRA... I'LL LEAVE THE BIG X DRUG HERE

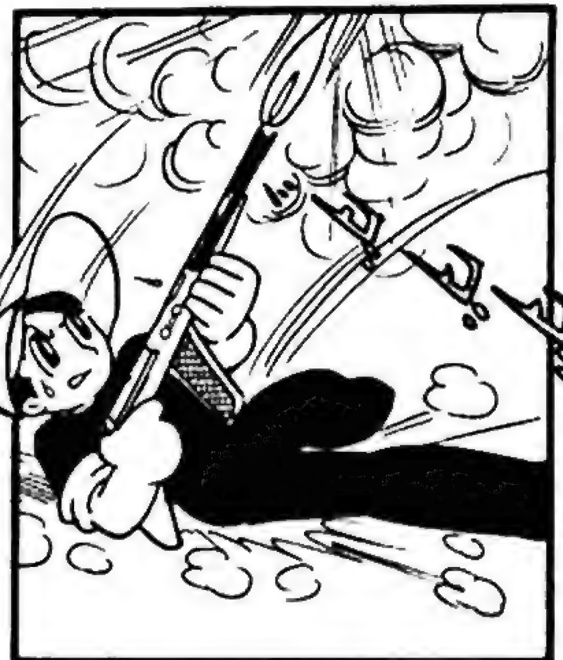

DON'T TALK LIKE THAT! I'M COMING!



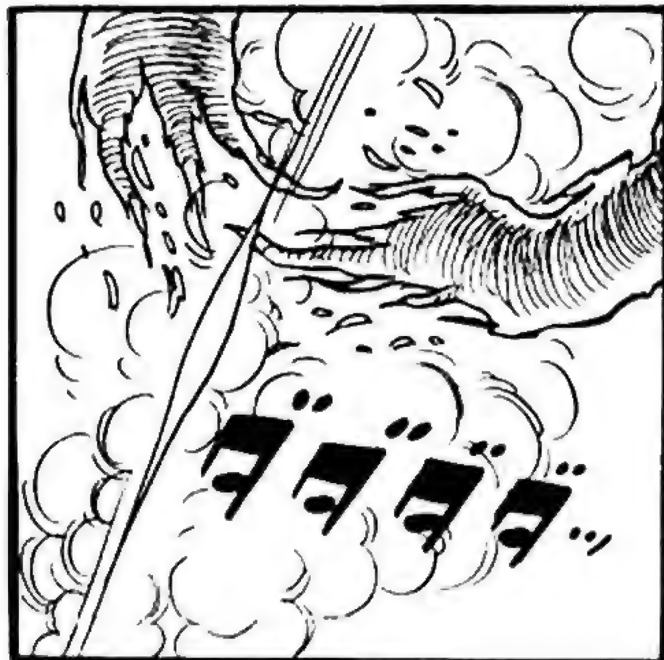

AKIRA! THE COMPACT WITH THE BIG X DRUG
JUST TAKE IT AND RUN... DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME


SHIIT


OOF



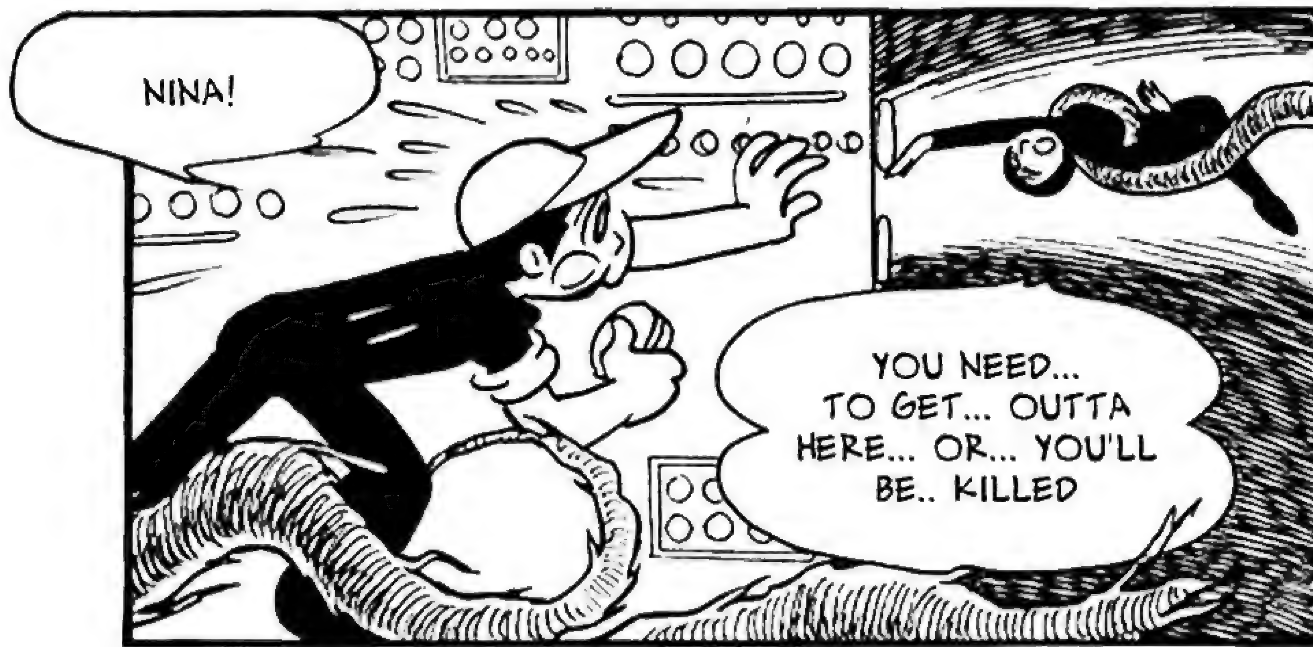

ドザッ!


ダダダダ…




WHERE'D IT GO

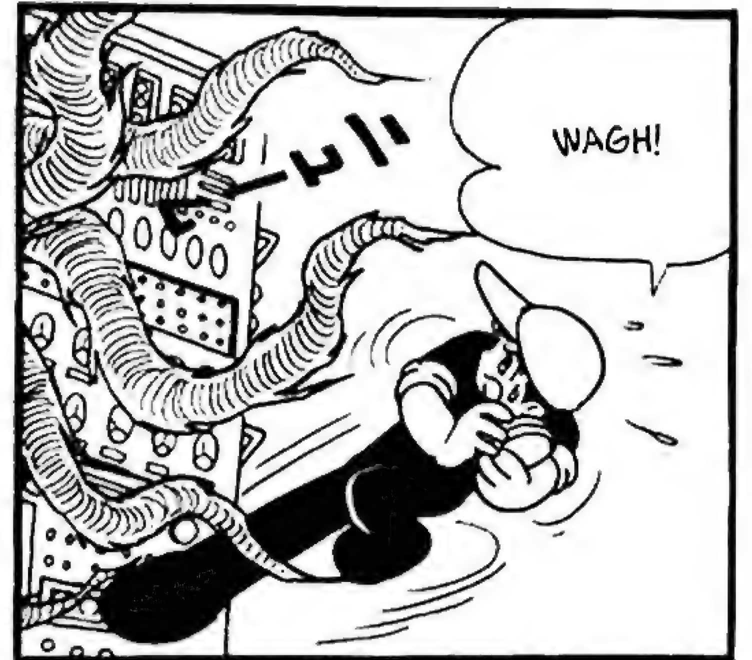

A..KI..RA

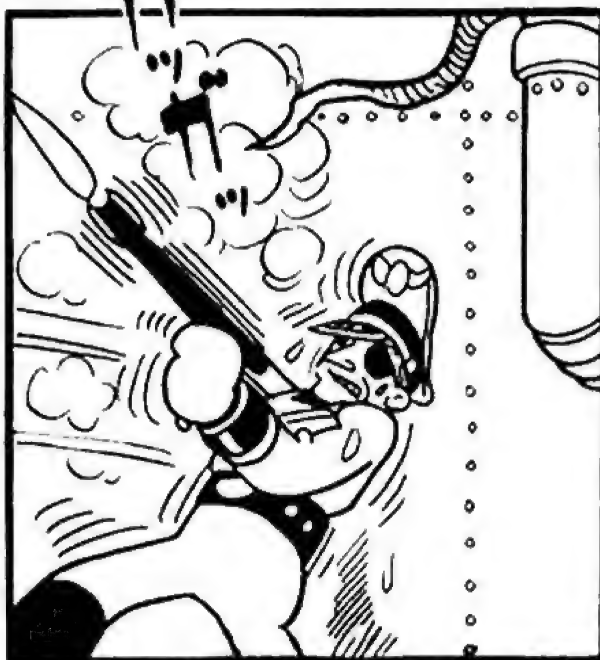

NINA!
YOU NEED... TO GET... OUTTA HERE... OR... YOU'LL BE.. KILLED

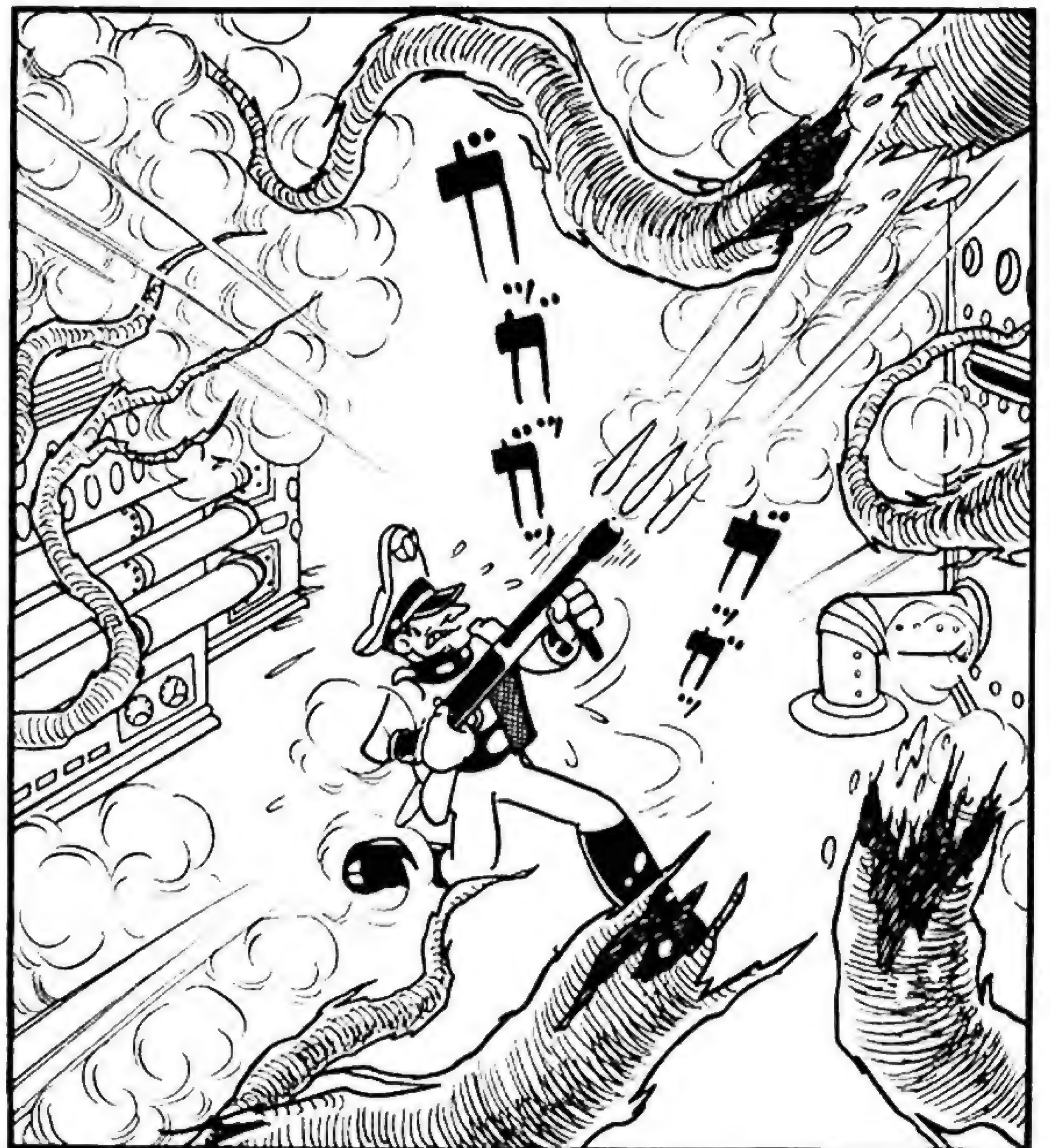




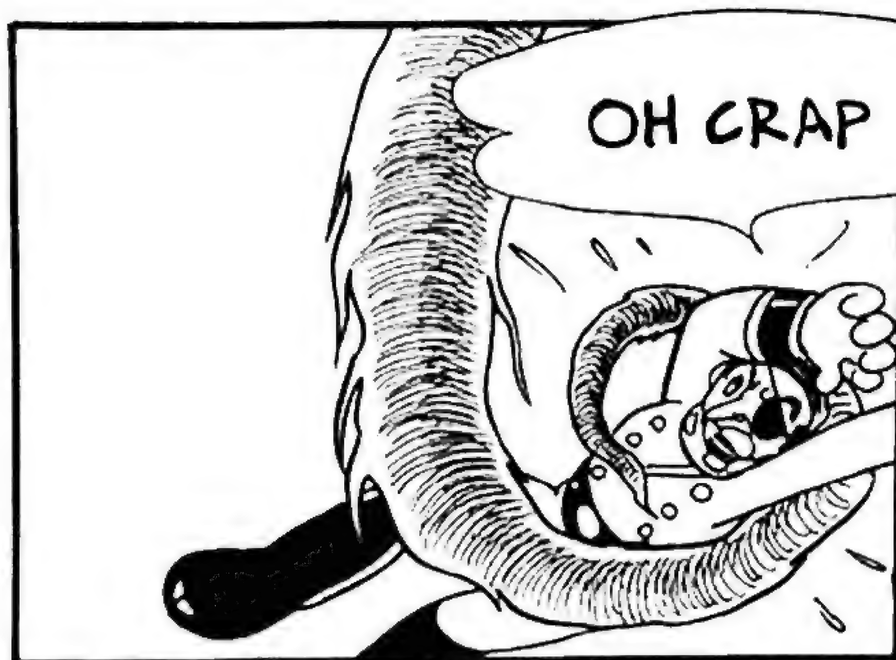

NINA! I'M SORRY


WAGH!



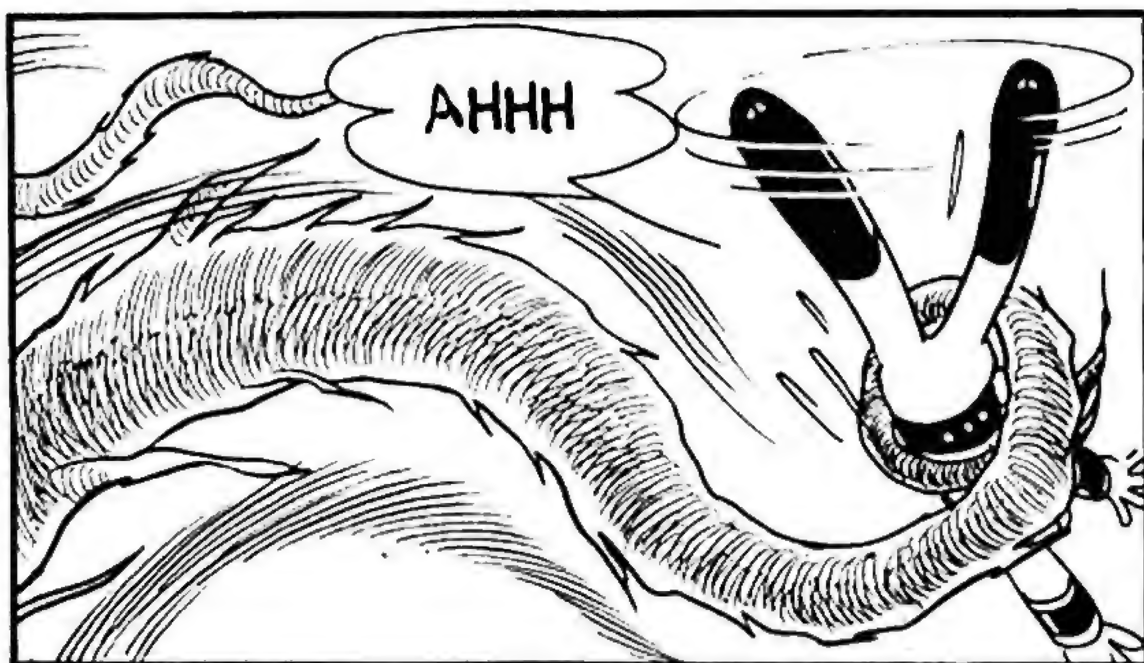


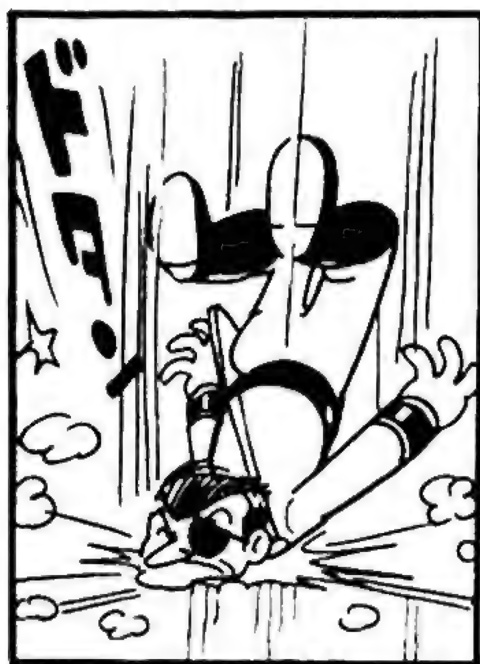

AHHH!

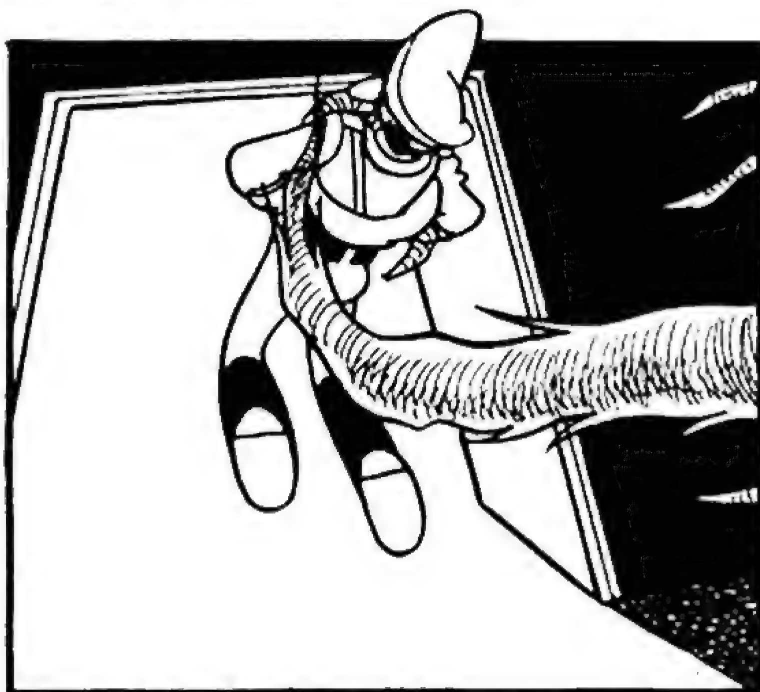

OH CRAP

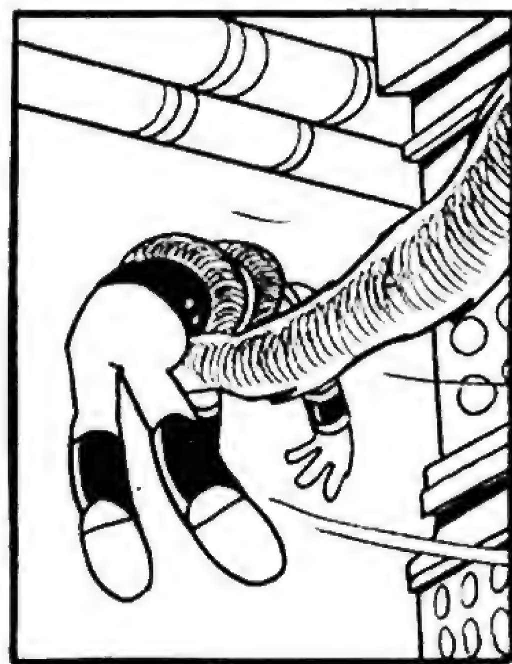

ゴゴゴゴ


CAN'T
BREATHE


AHHH





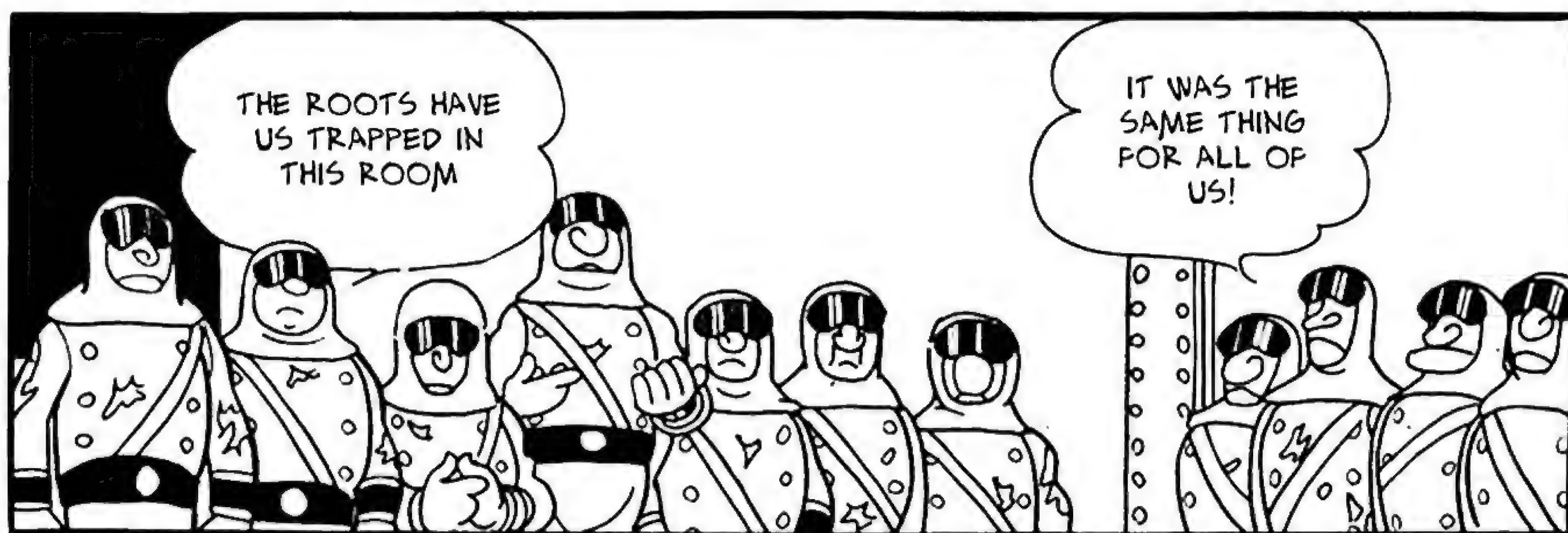


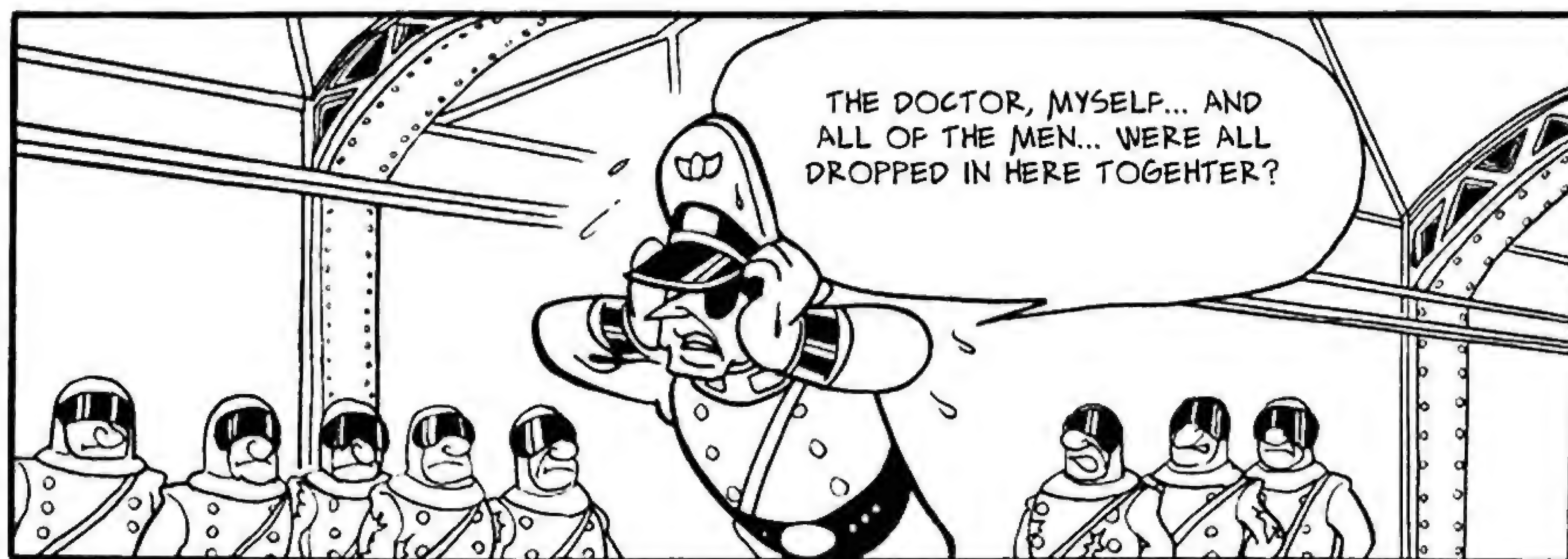

I'D LIKE TO KNOW TOO, MAJOR ZENDA


DR. BURP, WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON HERE?


IT'S YOU

I WAS IN A DUNGEON CELL THAT YOU THREW ME IN. BUT THEN A POTATO ROOT BURST THROUGH THE WALL AND CARRIED ME INTO THIS ROOM

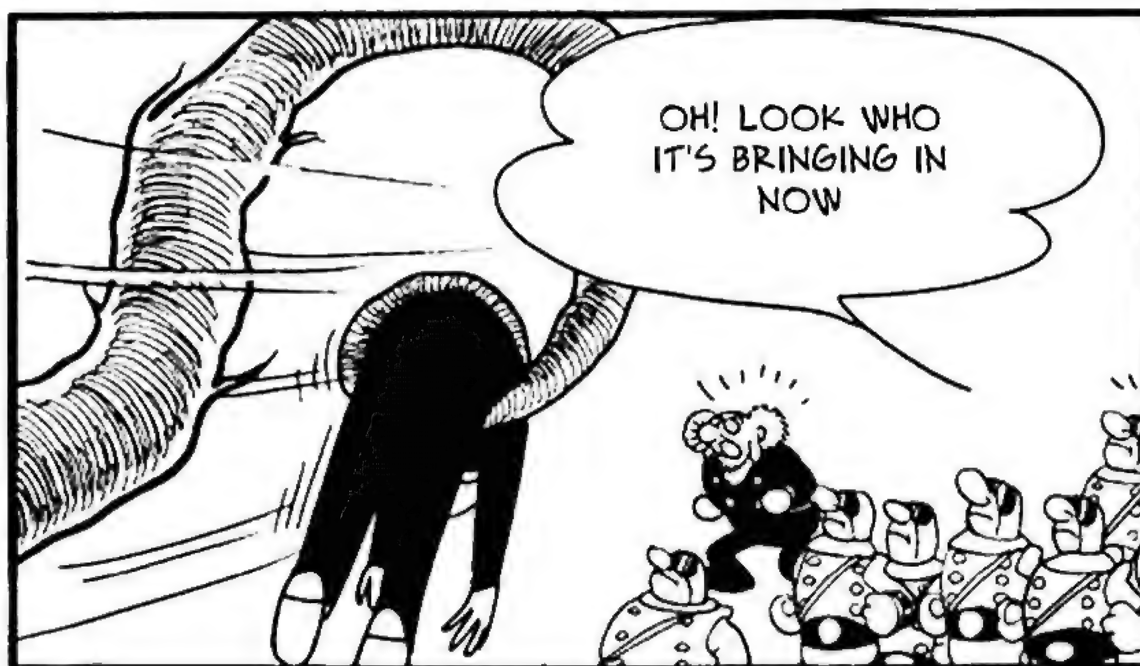





I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT WOULD CAUSE THE POTATO TO DO THAT
FIRST OF ALL, HOW WOULD THE POTATOES HAVE THE CAPACITY TO DO THIS?


IS THE POTATO GOING TO TURN US ALL INTO COCONUTS?
MAYBE IT THINKS WE ARE WORMS?
WE'RE NEVER GONNA GET OUTTA HERE!




OH! LOOK WHO IT'S BRINGING IN NOW


NINA, PLEASE HANG IN THERE
SIBU UCHIWA


HEY! IT'S NINA!


AKIRA MUST'VE ESCAPED WITH THE BIG X DRUG

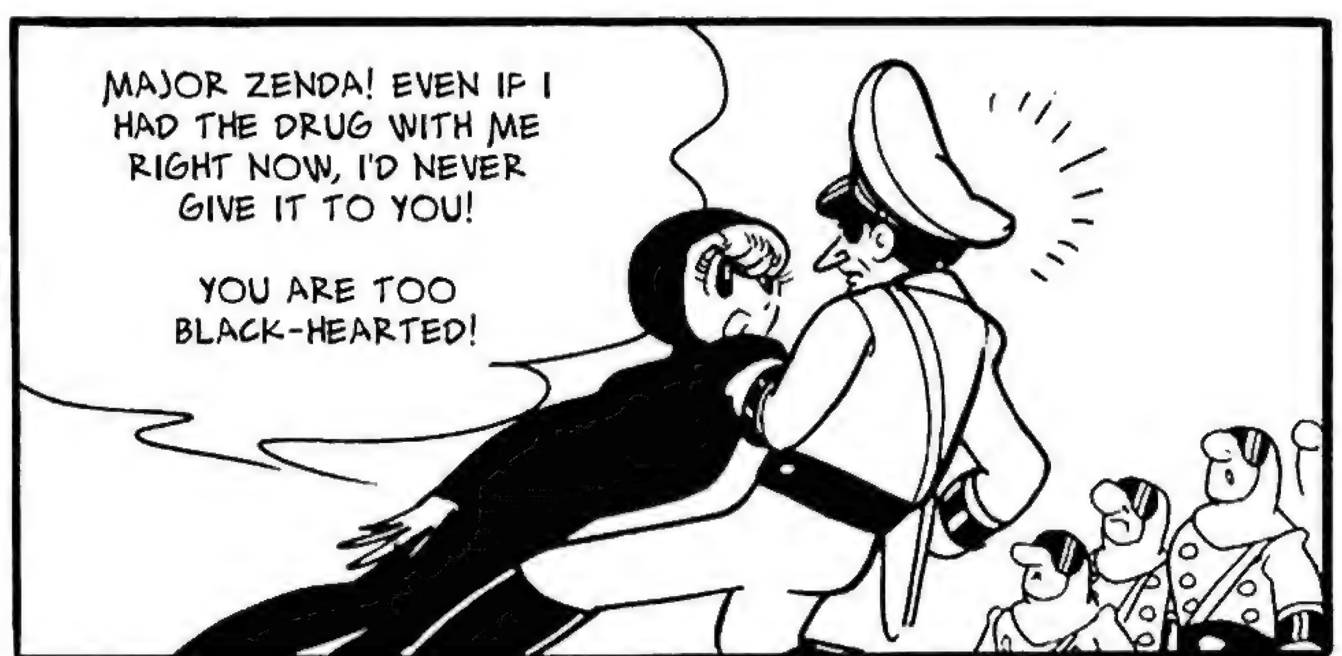

WHERE AM I?
OH GOOD! YOU'RE AWAKE! WHERE'S AKIRA?




IF I HAD THAT DRUG, I WOULDN'T BE IN THIS JAM RIGHT NOW!
WE'D ALL BE ABLE TO GET OUTTA HERE!


WHAT?? WITH THE BIG X DRUG???




MAJOR ZENDA! EVEN IF I HAD THE DRUG WITH ME RIGHT NOW, I'D NEVER GIVE IT TO YOU!
YOU ARE TOO BLACK-HEARTED!

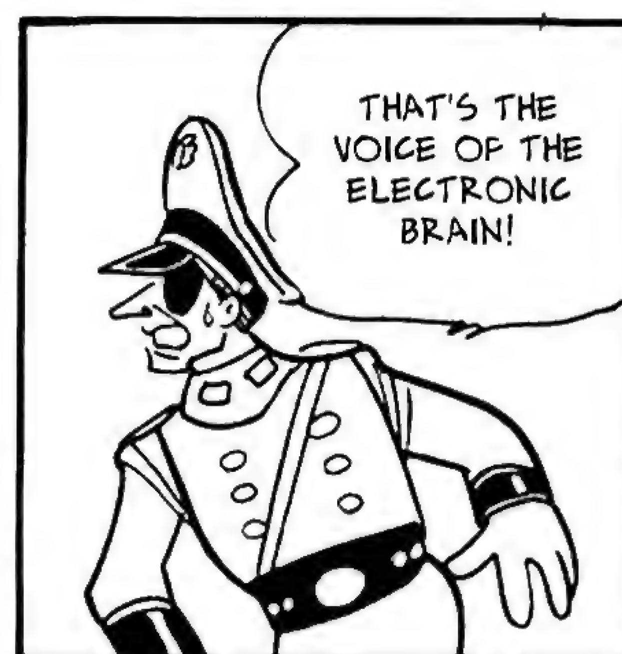

h-u-m-a-n b-e-i-n-g-s

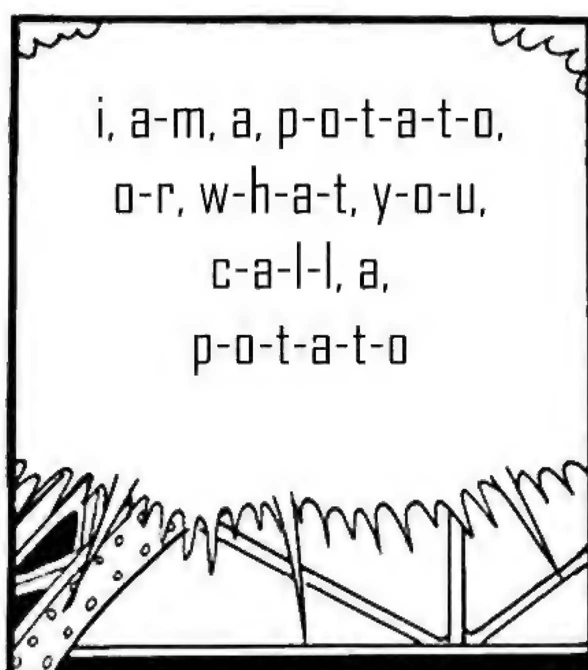

STOP IT MAJOR ZENDA!!

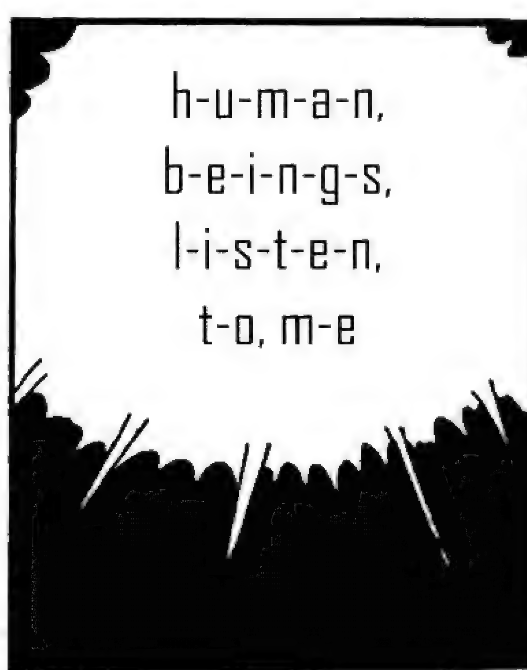

WHOSE VOICE IS THAT? IT'S NOT HUMAN




AND THAT'S THE VOICE OF THE VOCALIZATION UNIT
THERE'S AN ELECTRONIC BRAIN THAT RUNS EVERYTHING AUTOMATICALLY


THAT'S THE VOICE OF THE ELECTRONIC BRAIN!


i, a-m, a, p-o-t-a-t-o, o-r, w-h-a-t, y-o-u, c-a-l-l, a, p-o-t-a-t-o

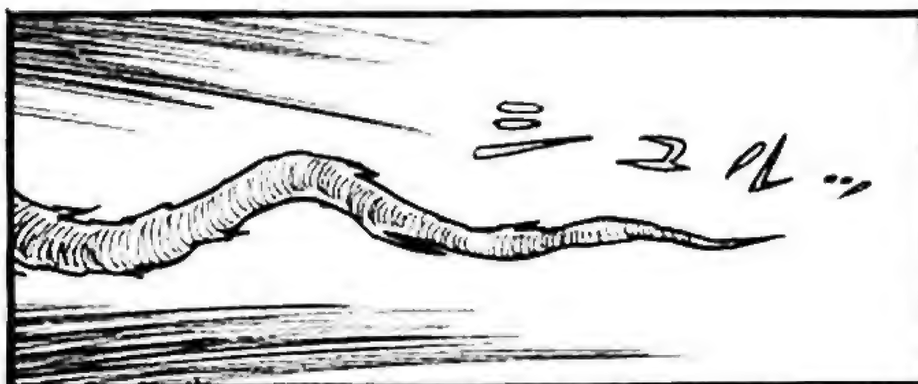

h-u-m-a-n, b-e-i-n-g-s, l-i-s-t-e-n, t-o, m-e

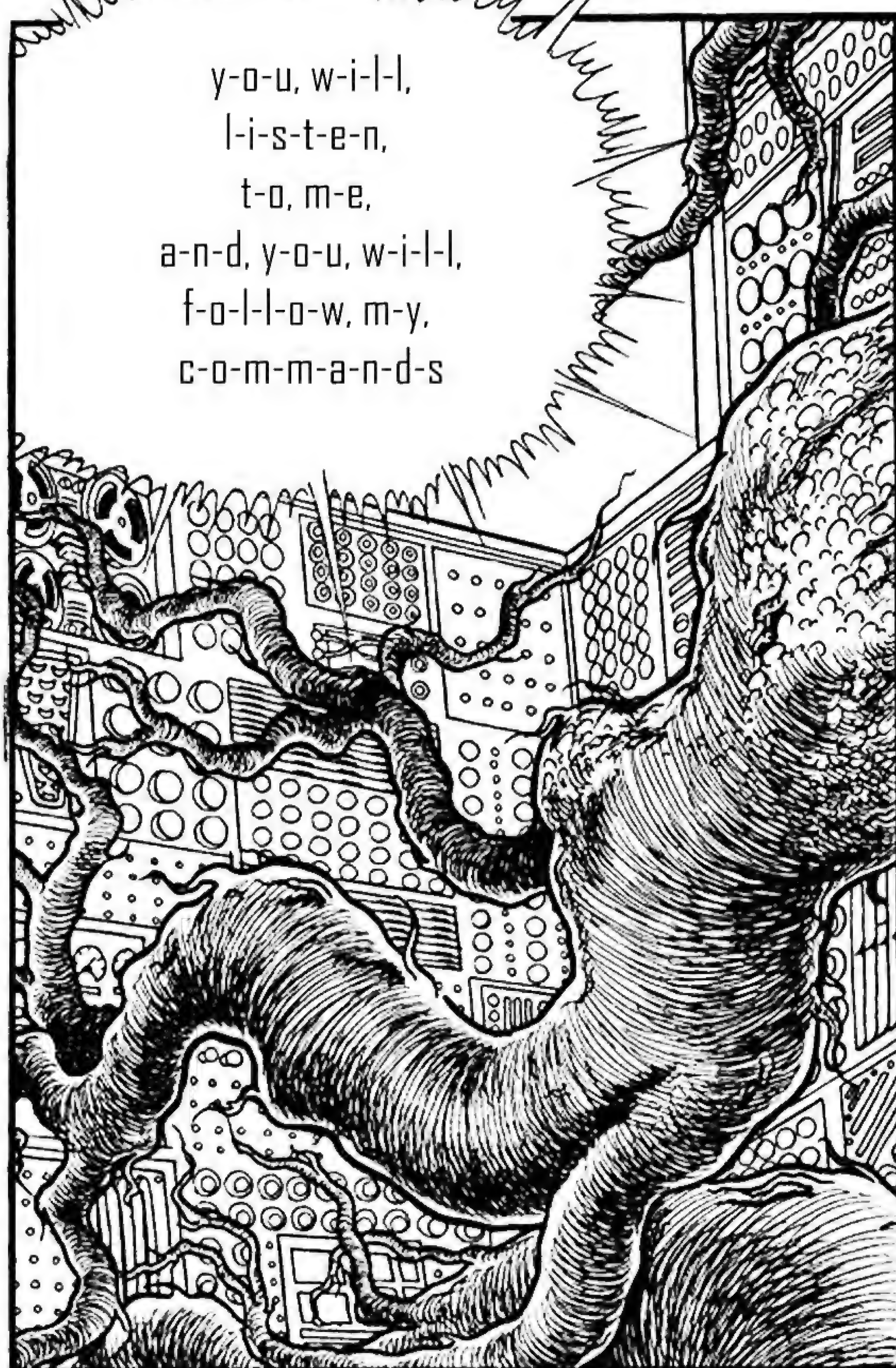

WHO COULD BE RUNNING IT?
I DON'T KNOW!

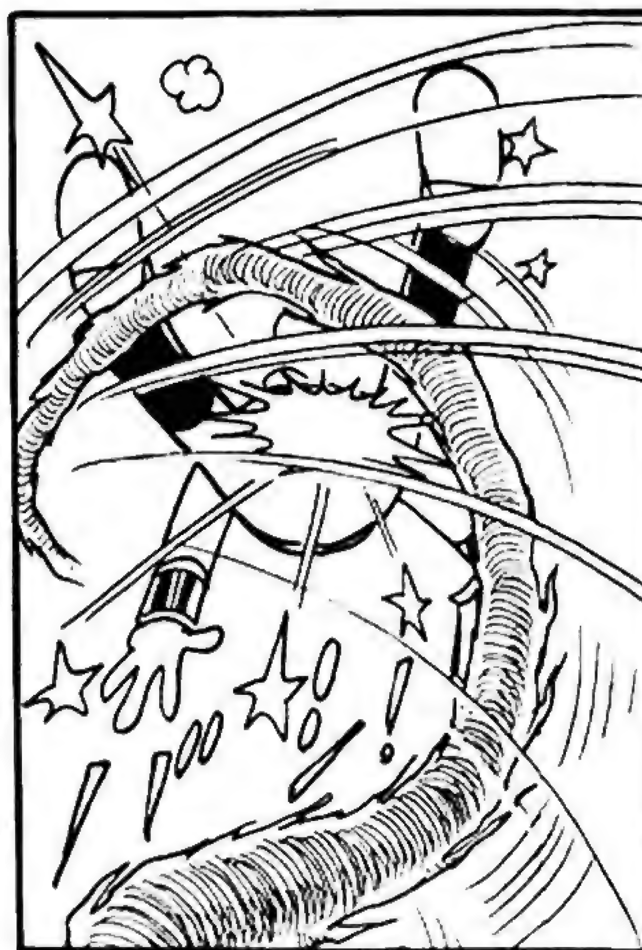

POTATOES? THE POTATOES ARE TALKING TO US?
IT SEEMS THE POTATOES ARE USING THE ELECTRONIC BRAIN TO DO THE TALKING FOR THEM


HUH? KING OF THE GALEA REPUBLIC? WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?


d-o, n-o-t, c-a-l-l, m-e, a, p-o-t-a-t-o. y-o-u, c-a-n, a-d-d-r-e-s-s, m-e, a-s, y-o-u-r, k-i-n-g


ジュル..


y-o-u, w-i-l-l, l-i-s-t-e-n, t-o, m-e, a-n-d, y-o-u, w-i-l-l, f-o-l-l-o-w, m-y, c-o-m-m-a-n-d-s




s-h-u-t, u-p a-n-d, l-i-s-t-e-n

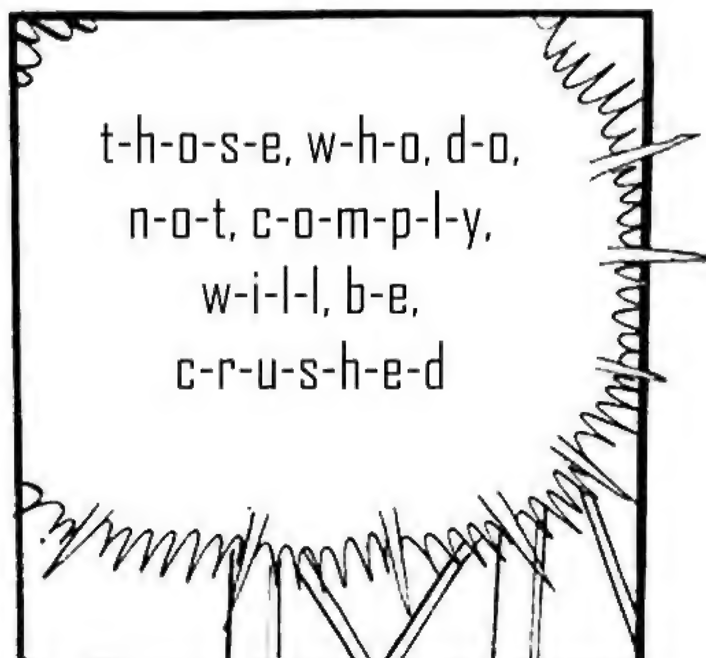
CHAPTER 16

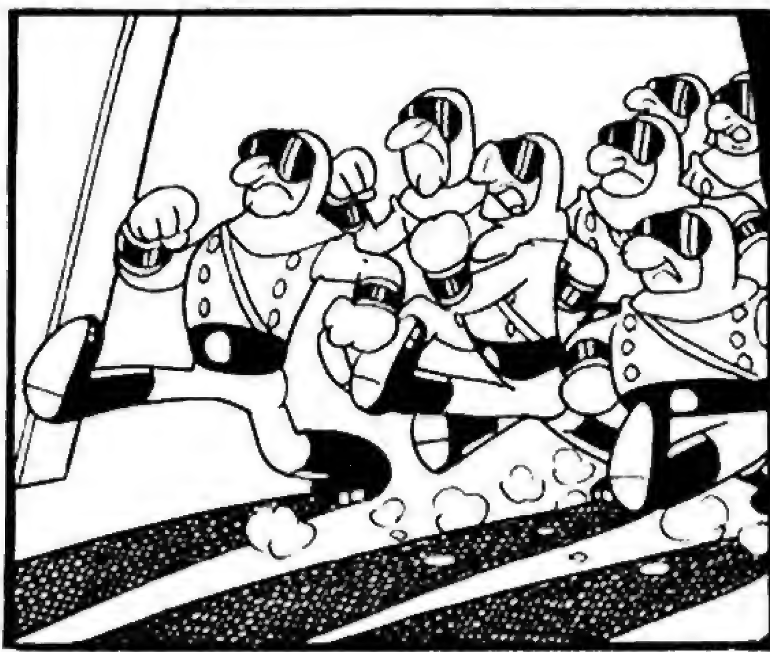
KING GALEA

i, a-m, y-o-u-r, k-i-n-g, n-o-w, y-o-u, s-h-a-l-l, d-o, a-s, i, c-o-m-m-a-n-d

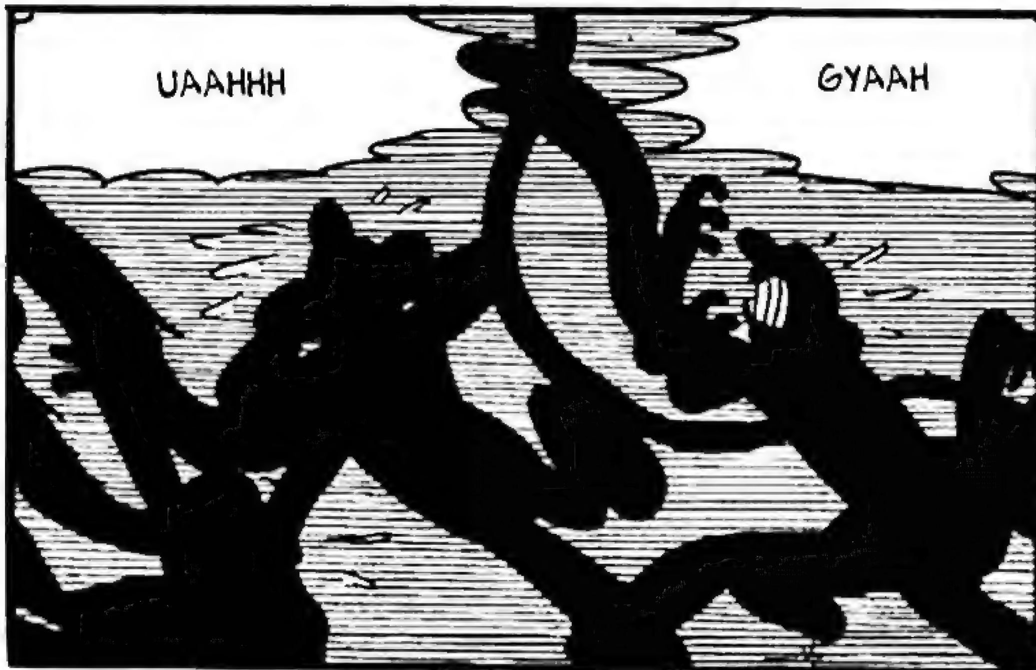
y-o-u, w-i-l-l, m-a-k-e, a, r-o-b-o-t, t-h-a-t, i, c-a-n, k-i-l-l, h-u-m-a-n-s, w-i-t-h



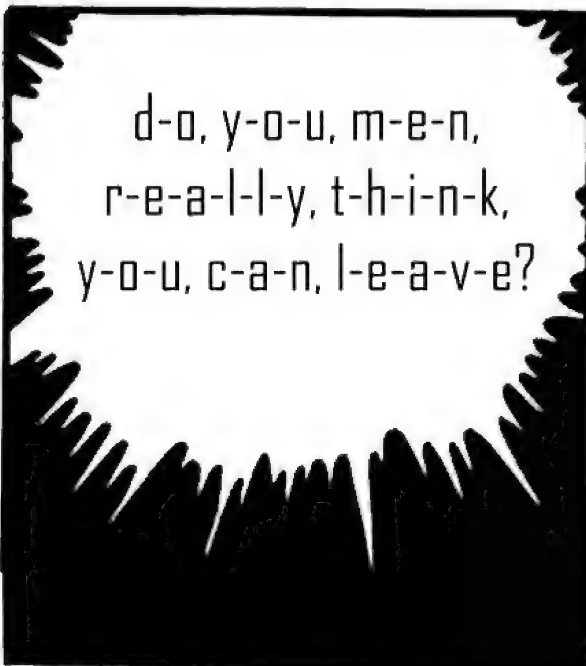


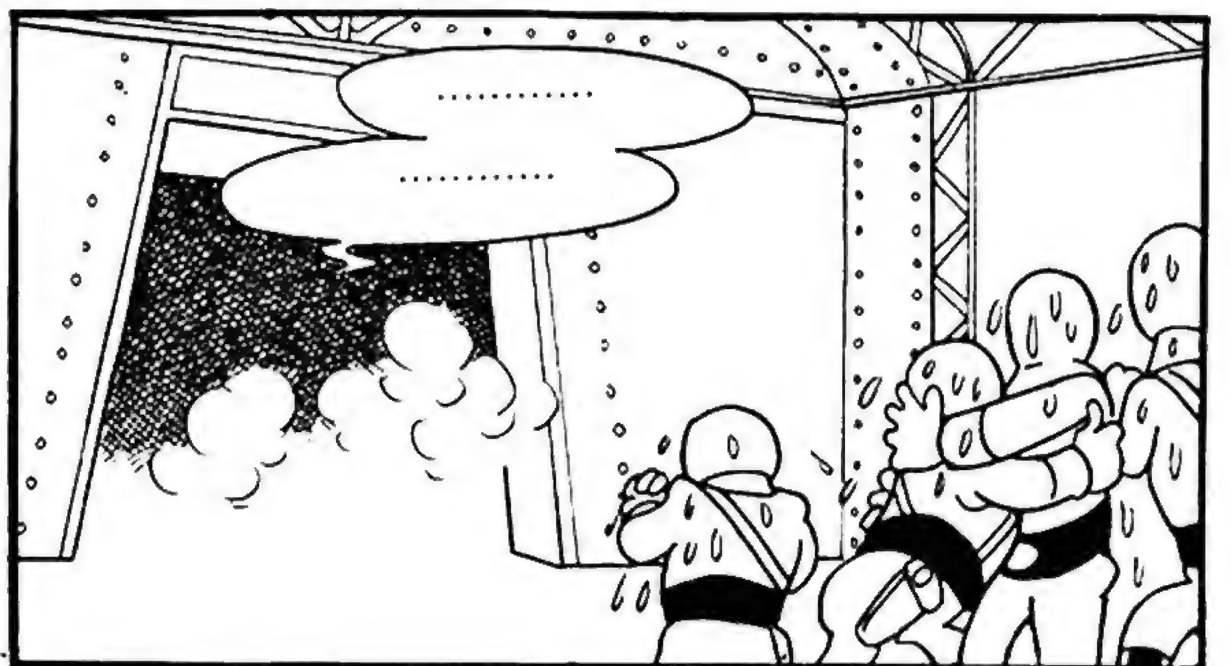


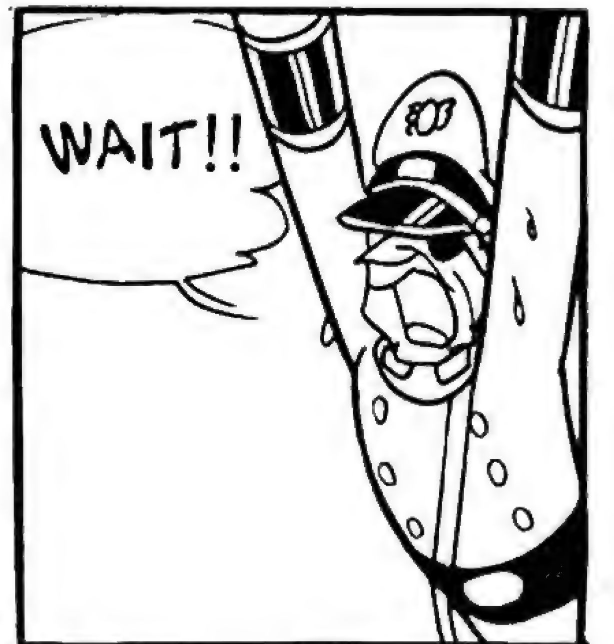

HEY GUYS! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
YEAH! WE ALL HAVE OUR PRIDE!


GYAAH
UAAHHH



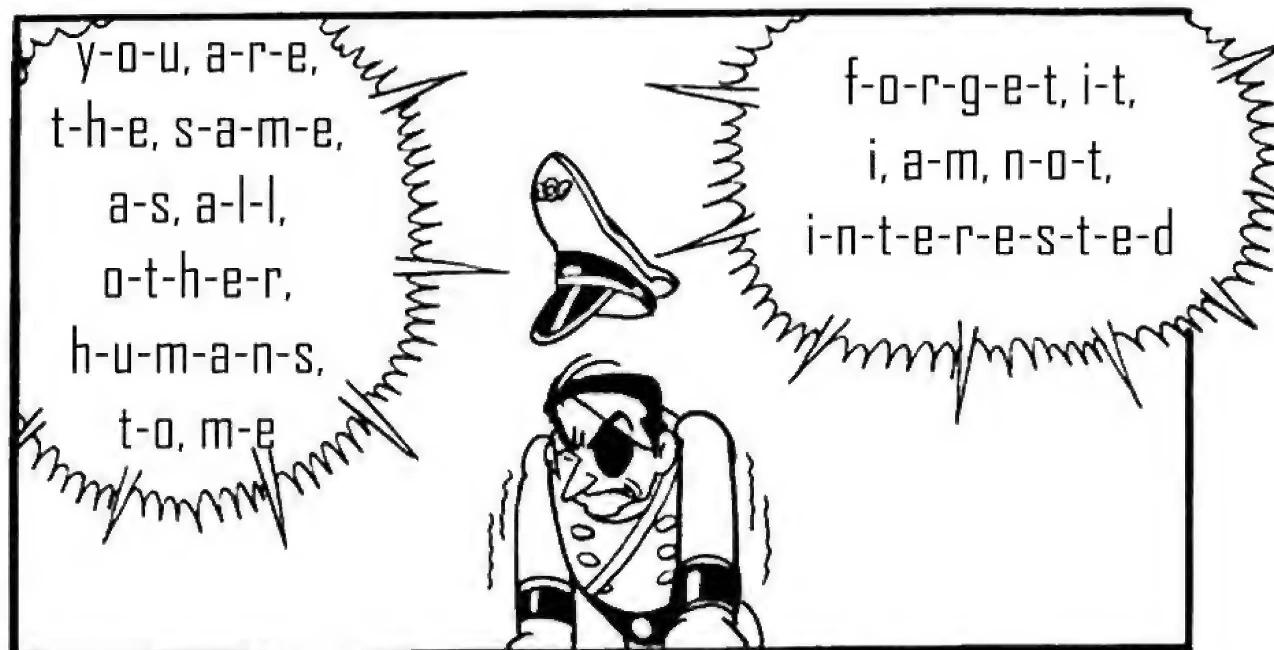

d-o, y-o-u, m-e-n, r-e-a-l-l-y, t-h-i-n-k, y-o-u, c-a-n, l-e-a-v-e?


....
....

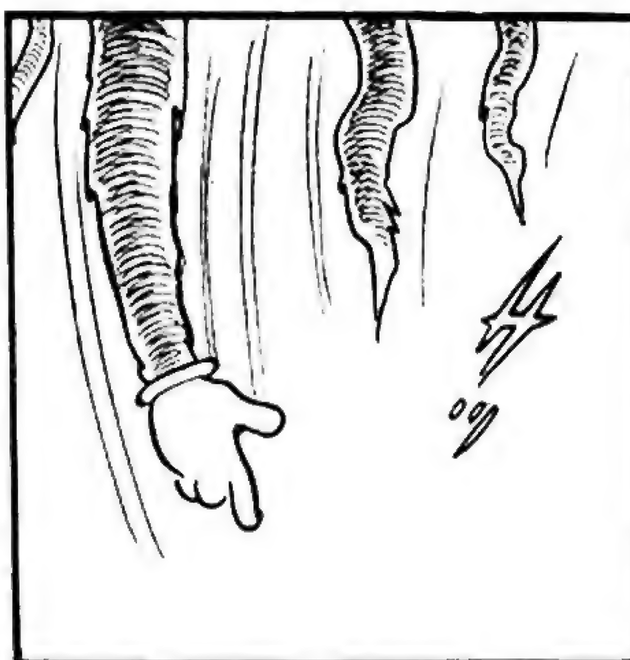

WAIT!!

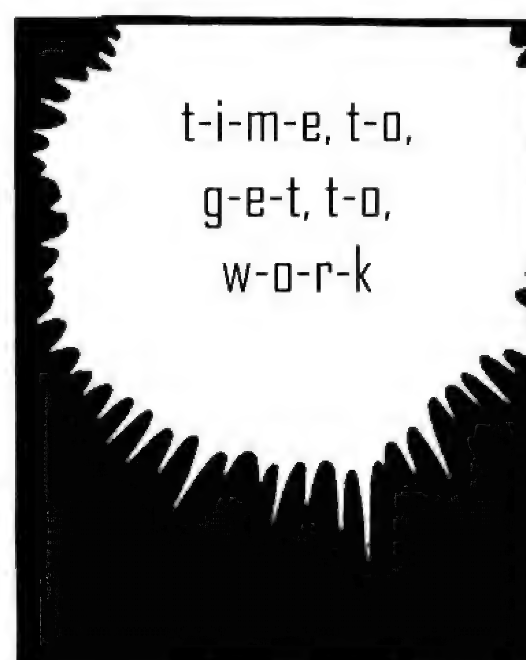

I'M MAJOR ZENDA, COMMANDER OF THIS FORTRESS! IF YOU LET ME HANDLE THIS, I'LL DO WHATEVER YOU WANT, SO WHY DON'T YOU TALK TO ME?

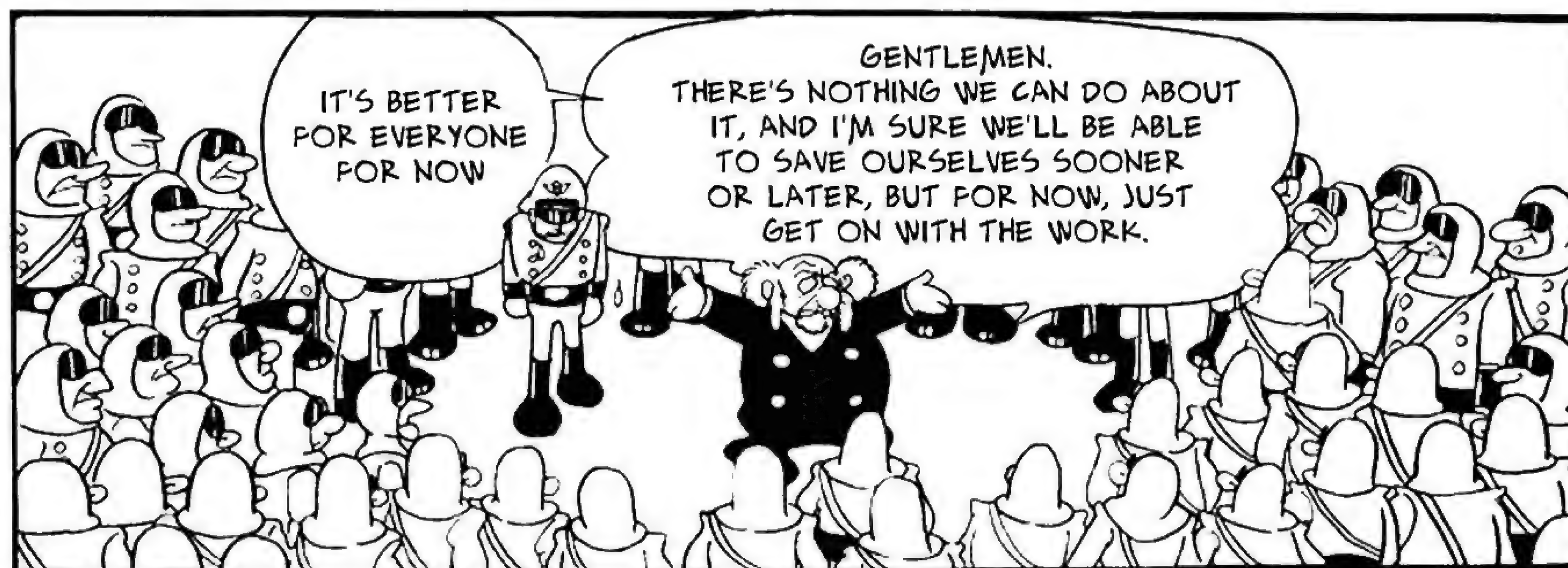

AH, FOR CRYIN OUT LOUD!

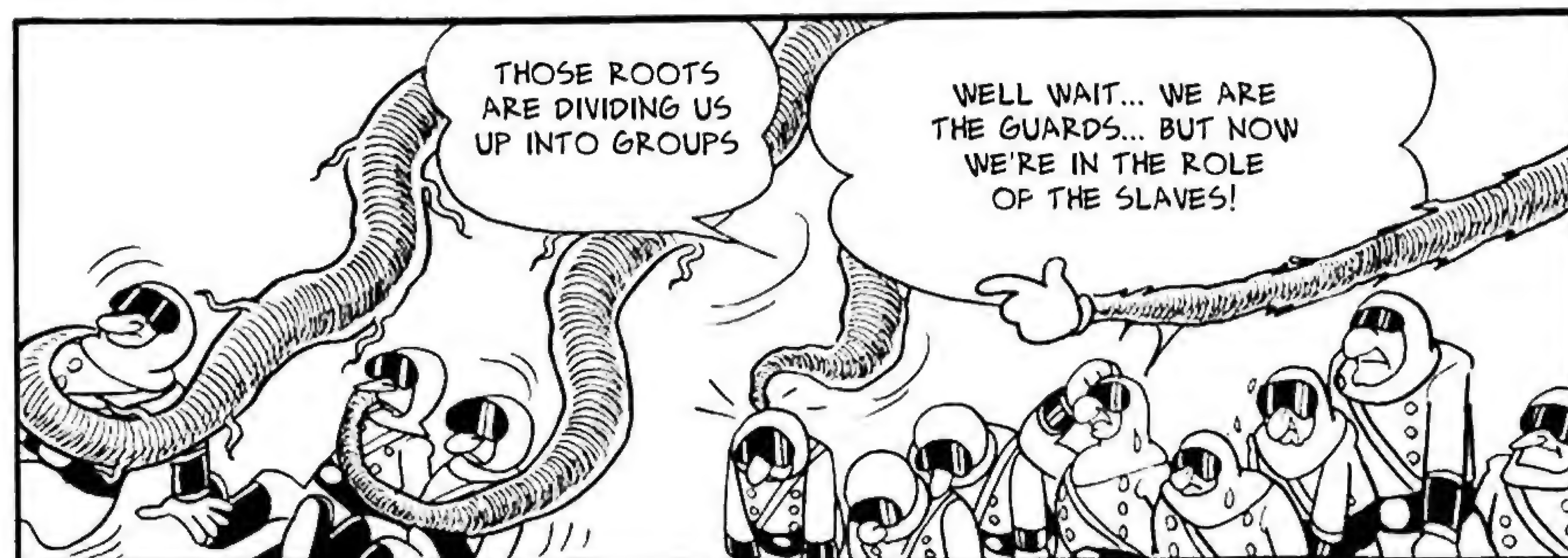

y-o-u, a-r-e, t-h-e, s-a-m-e, a-s, a-l-l, o-t-h-e-r, h-u-m-a-n-s, t-o, m-e
f-o-r-g-e-t, i-t, i, a-m, n-o-t, i-n-t-e-r-e-s-t-e-d



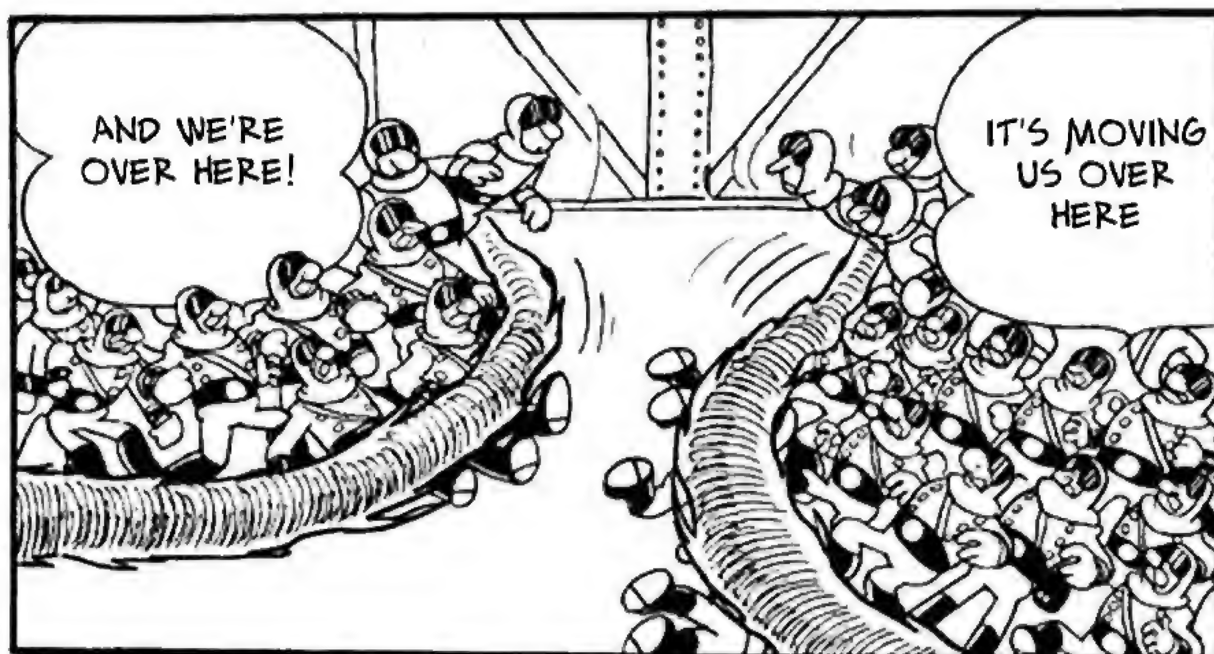


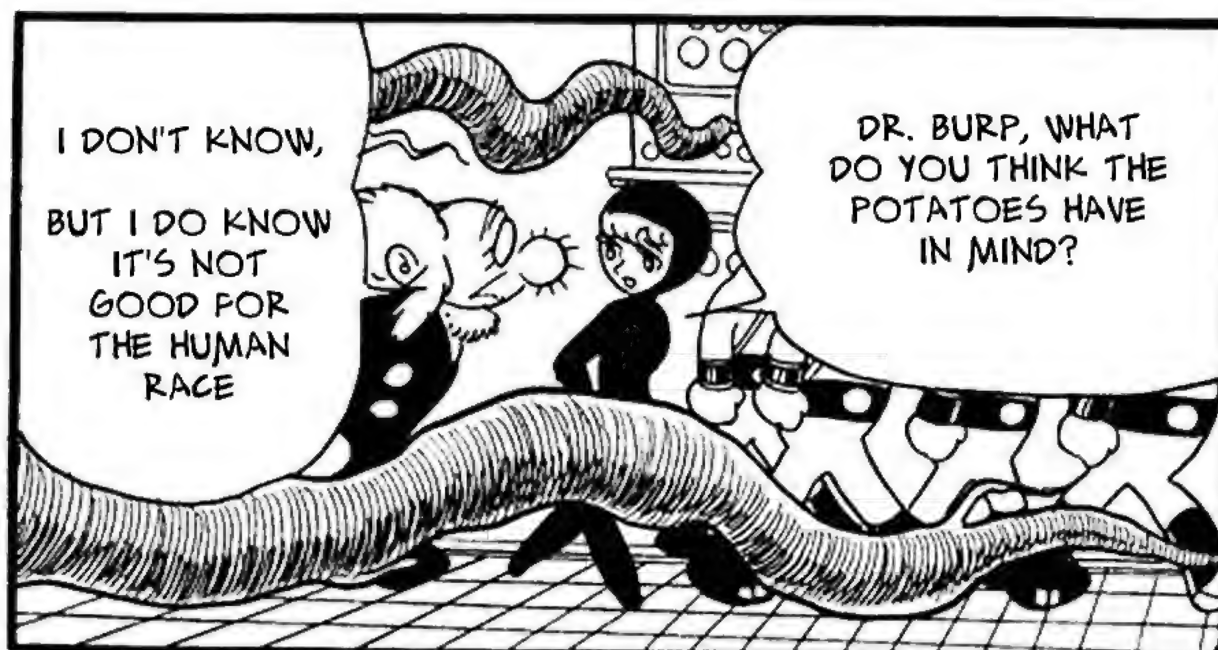

t-i-m-e, t-o, g-e-t, t-o, w-o-r-k


GENTLEMEN. THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO ABOUT IT, AND I'M SURE WE'LL BE ABLE TO SAVE OURSELVES SOONER OR LATER, BUT FOR NOW, JUST GET ON WITH THE WORK.
IT'S BETTER FOR EVERYONE FOR NOW


WELL WAIT... WE ARE THE GUARDS... BUT NOW WE'RE IN THE ROLE OF THE SLAVES!
THOSE ROOTS ARE DIVIDING US UP INTO GROUPS




AND WE'RE OVER HERE!
IT'S MOVING US OVER HERE

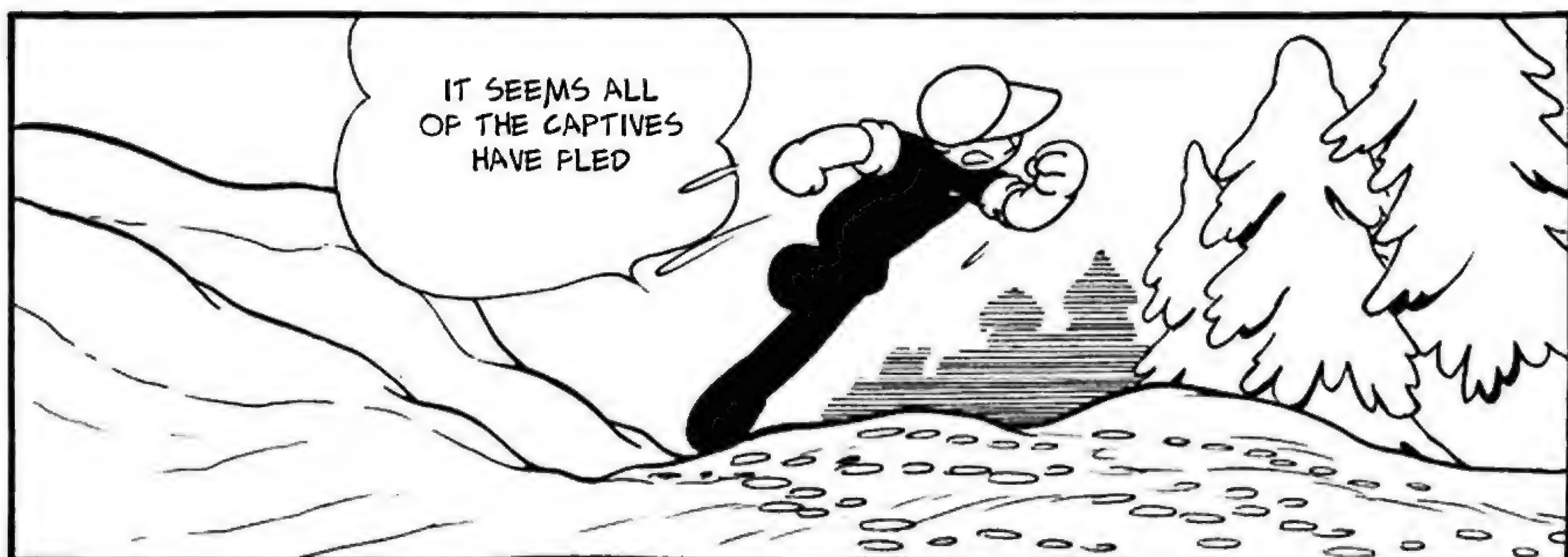

DR. BURP, WHAT DO YOU THINK THE POTATOES HAVE IN MIND?
I DON'T KNOW,
BUT I DO KNOW IT'S NOT GOOD FOR THE HUMAN RACE


IT WANTS US TO WALK

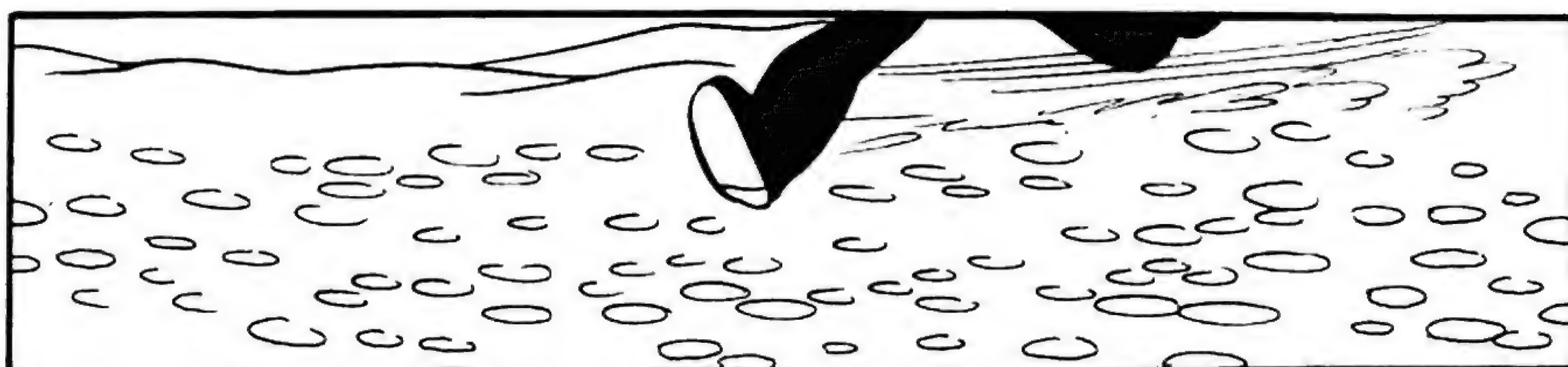



THEN I'D KNOW WHAT IT'S UP TO


IF I COULD TELEPATHICALY CONNECT TO A PLANT...

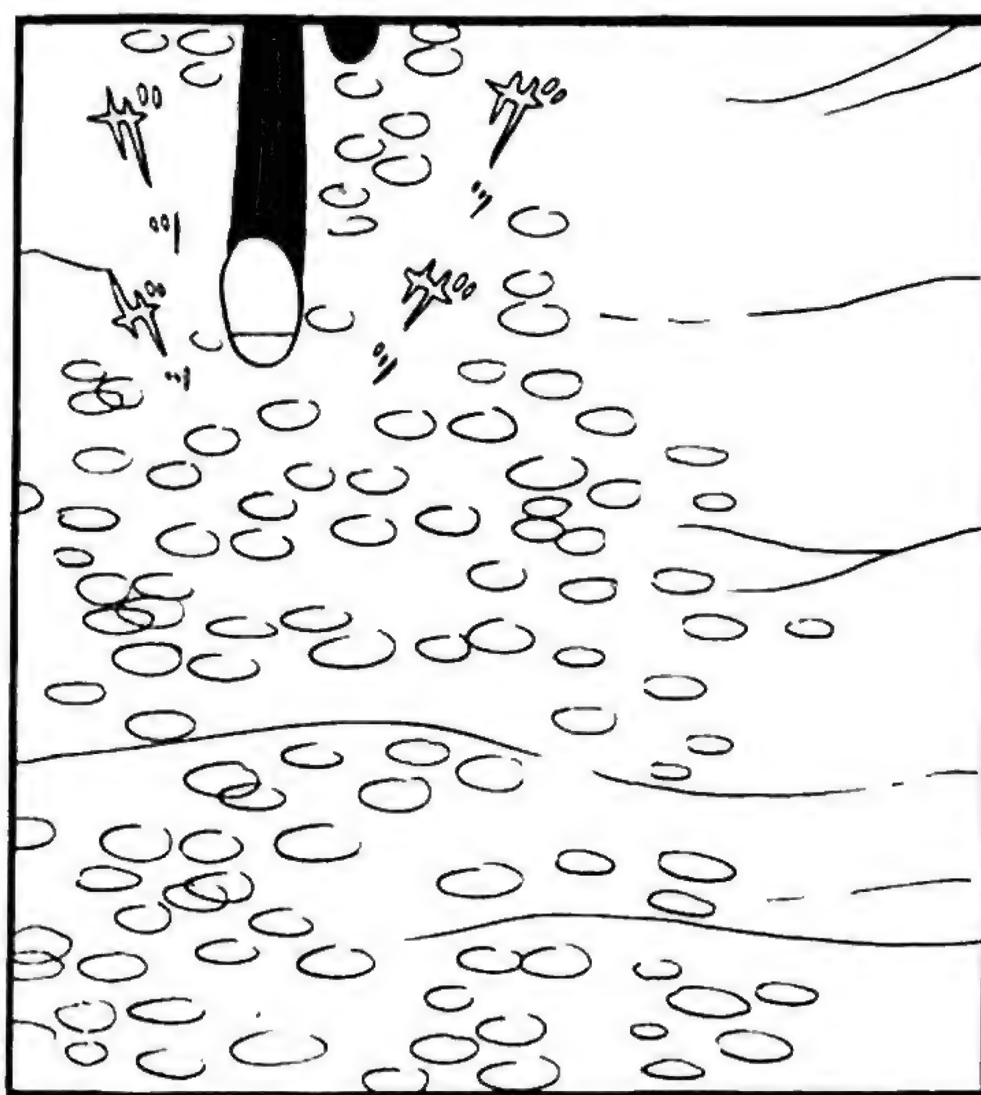

IT SEEMS ALL OF THE CAPTIVES HAVE FLED


LOOK AT
ALL OF
THOSE
FOOTPRINTS






OH!

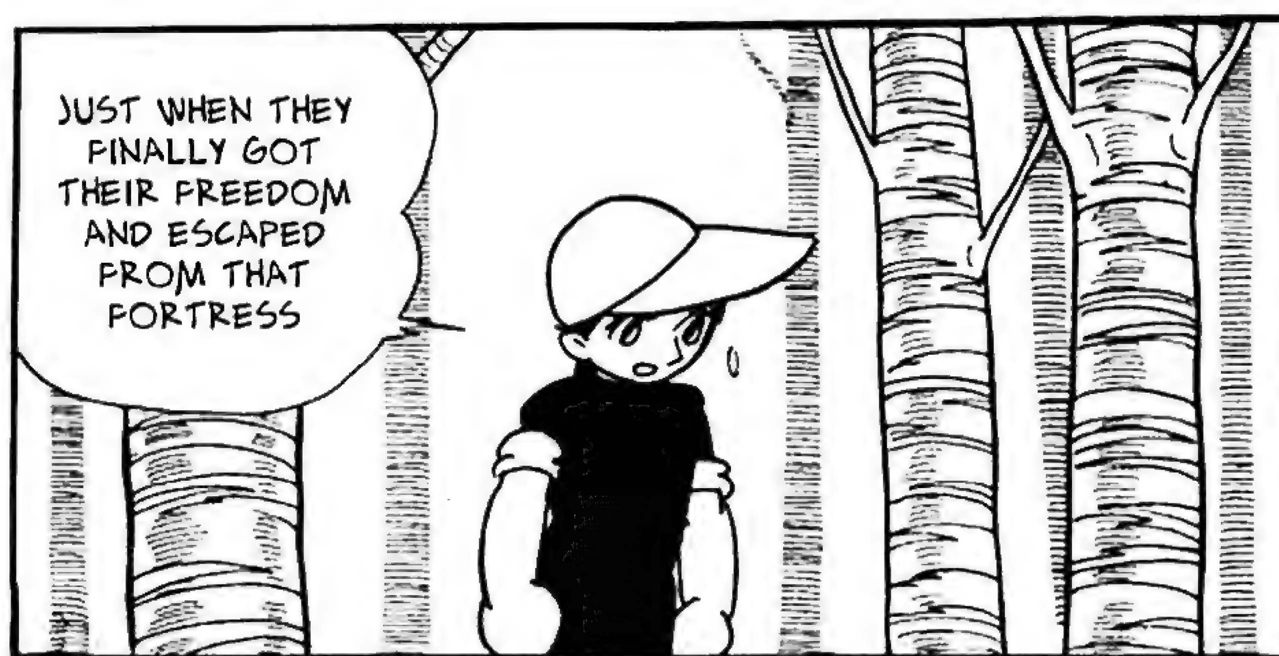


THIS IS ....

OH DAMN IT!




THIS IS FOR YOU


JUST WHEN THEY FINALLY GOT THEIR FREEDOM AND ESCAPED FROM THAT FORTRESS






COME ON BIG X. I'M TAKING TWO DOSES ON THE SCALE

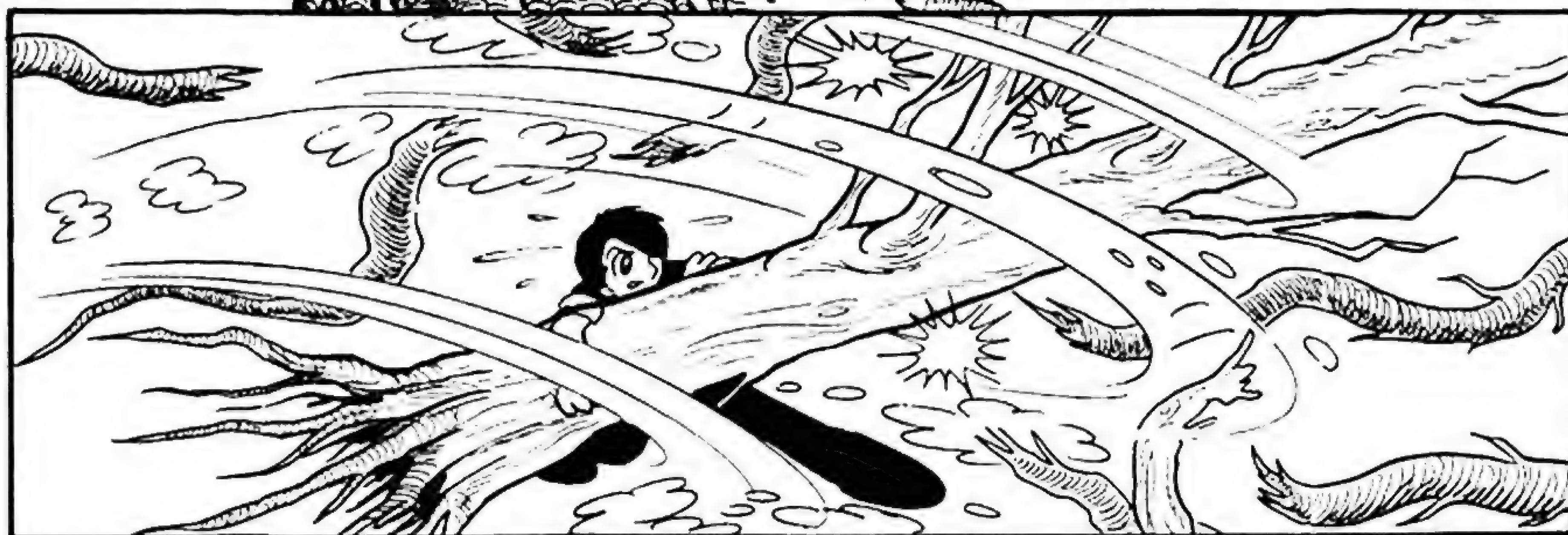

THERE IT IS! THE POTATO!


I WON'T BE AS EASY TO DEAL WITH AS THOSE OTHERS!

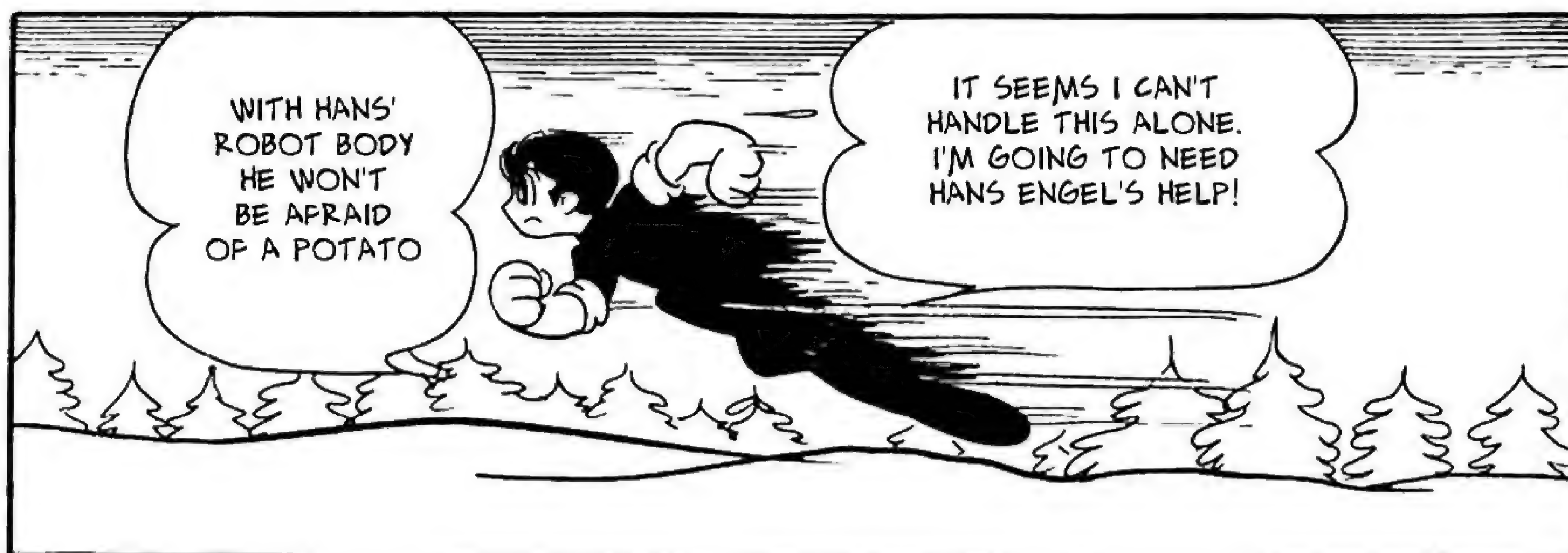

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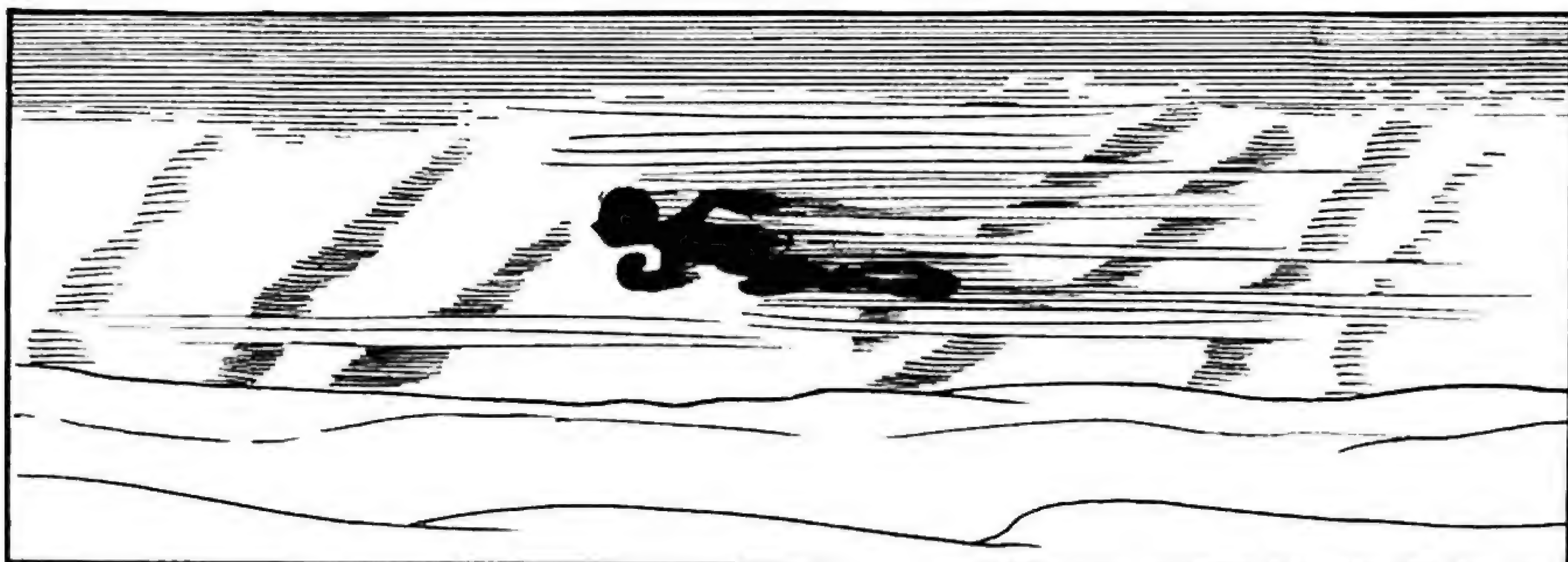







THERE'S NO WAY I CAN DO THIS ......


IT SEEMS I CAN'T HANDLE THIS ALONE. I'M GOING TO NEED HANS ENGEL'S HELP!
WITH HANS' ROBOT BODY HE WON'T BE AFRAID OF A POTATO




THERE'S A PHONE!


LOOKS LIKE EVERYONE HAS EVACUATED


INTERNATIONAL PHONE CALLS ARE NOW OUT OF SERVICE, AS THE GOVERNMENT HAS ORDERED US NOT TO COMMUNICATE WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES.


HELLO! HELLO! I NEED TO MAKE AN INTERNATIONAL CALL!


THERE CAN BE AN EXCEPTION IF YOU'RE FROM THE UNITED NATIONS POLICE, BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO COME TO THE INTERNATIONAL DIALING STATION AND MAKE THE CALL.

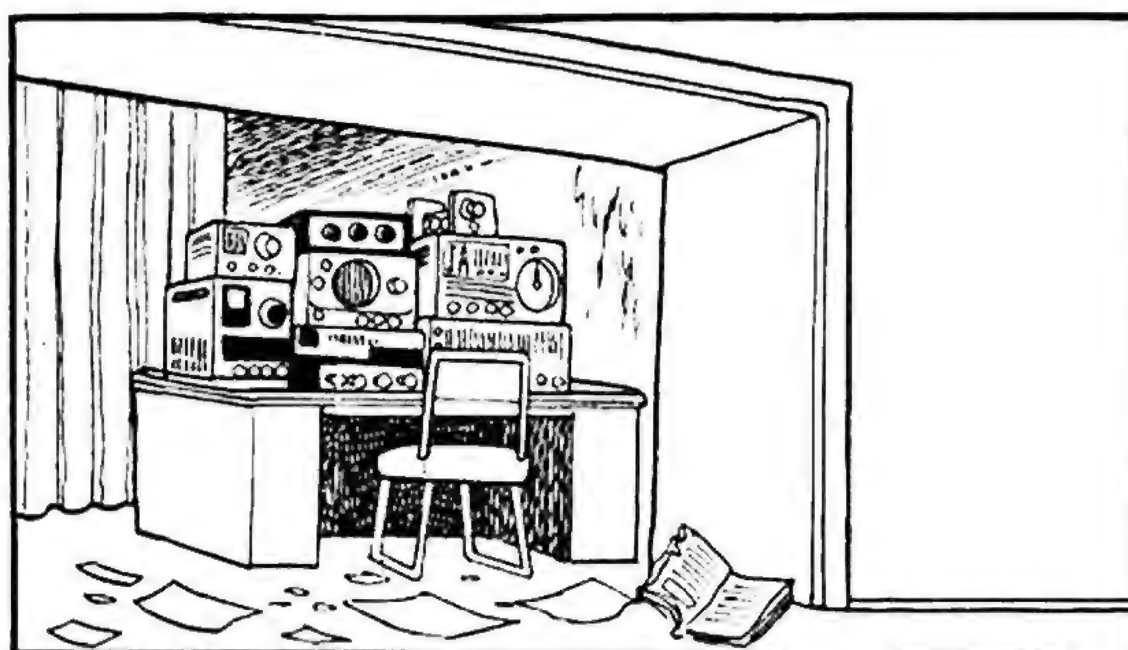

THIS IS AKIRA ASAGUMO OF THE UNITED NATIONS POLICE!
WHAT? BUT I NEED TO CONTACT JAPAN, BUT I CAN'T BECAUSE I'M STUCK HERE!


HELLO? HELLO?
THE LINE DROPPED


IF I COULD MAKE IT THAT FAR, I WOULDN'T BE STUCK HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE!

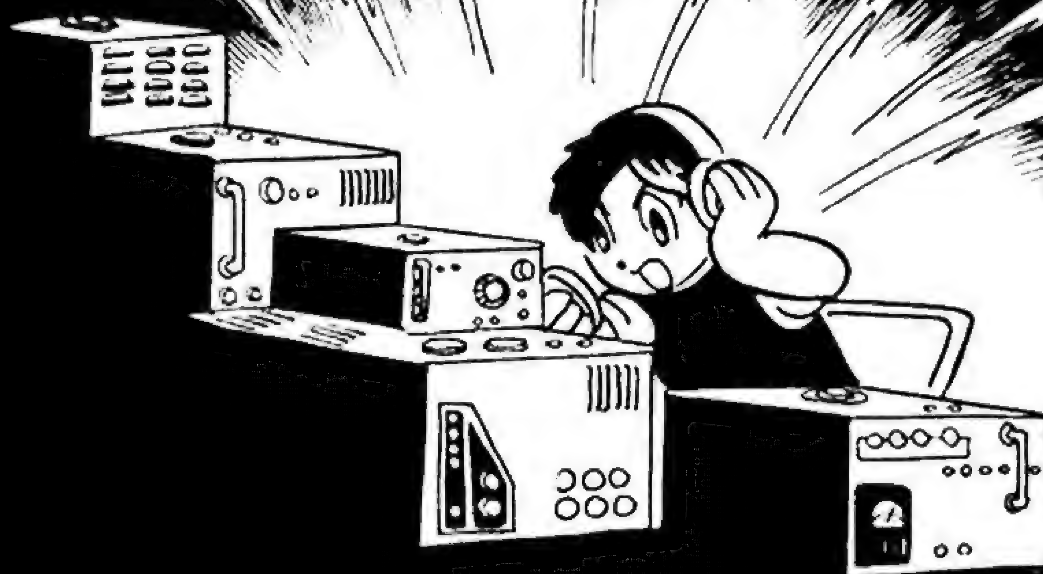


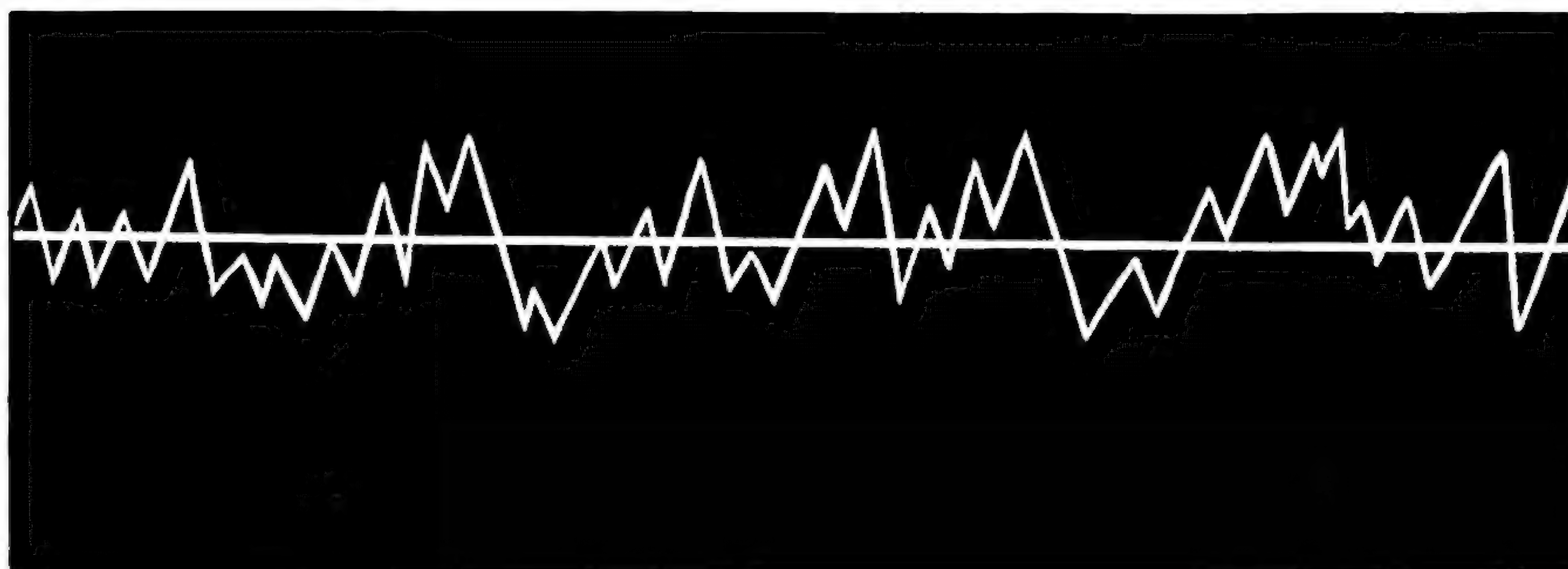


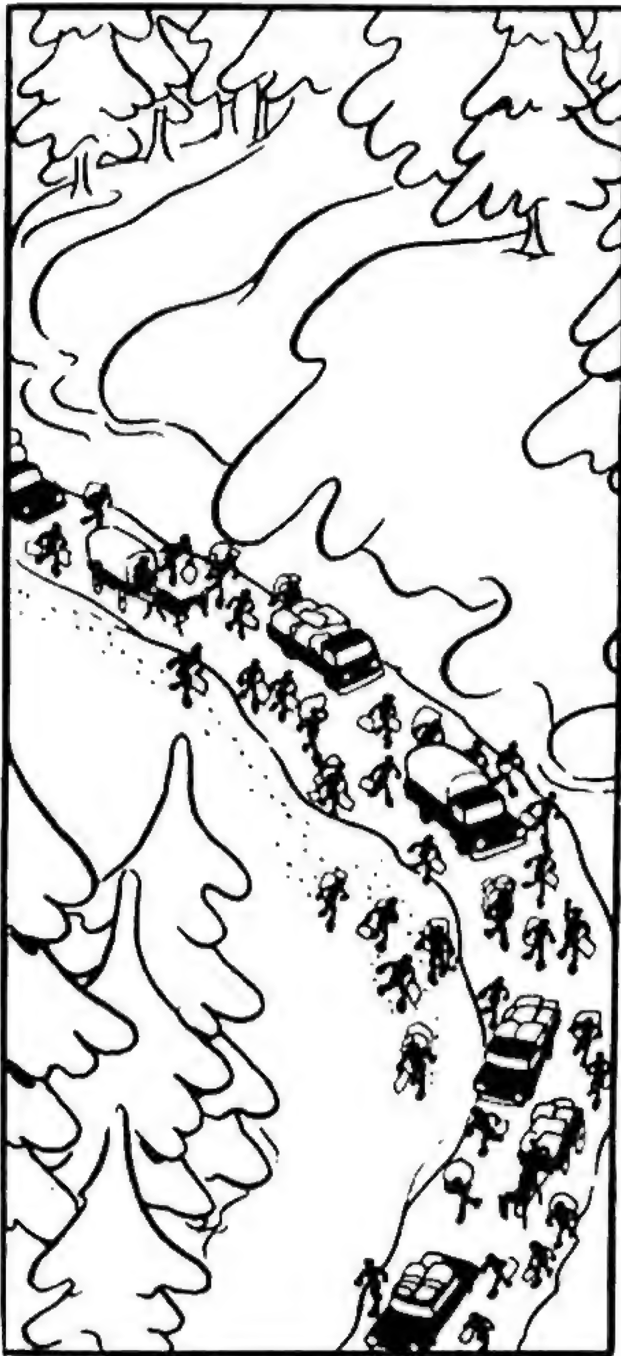


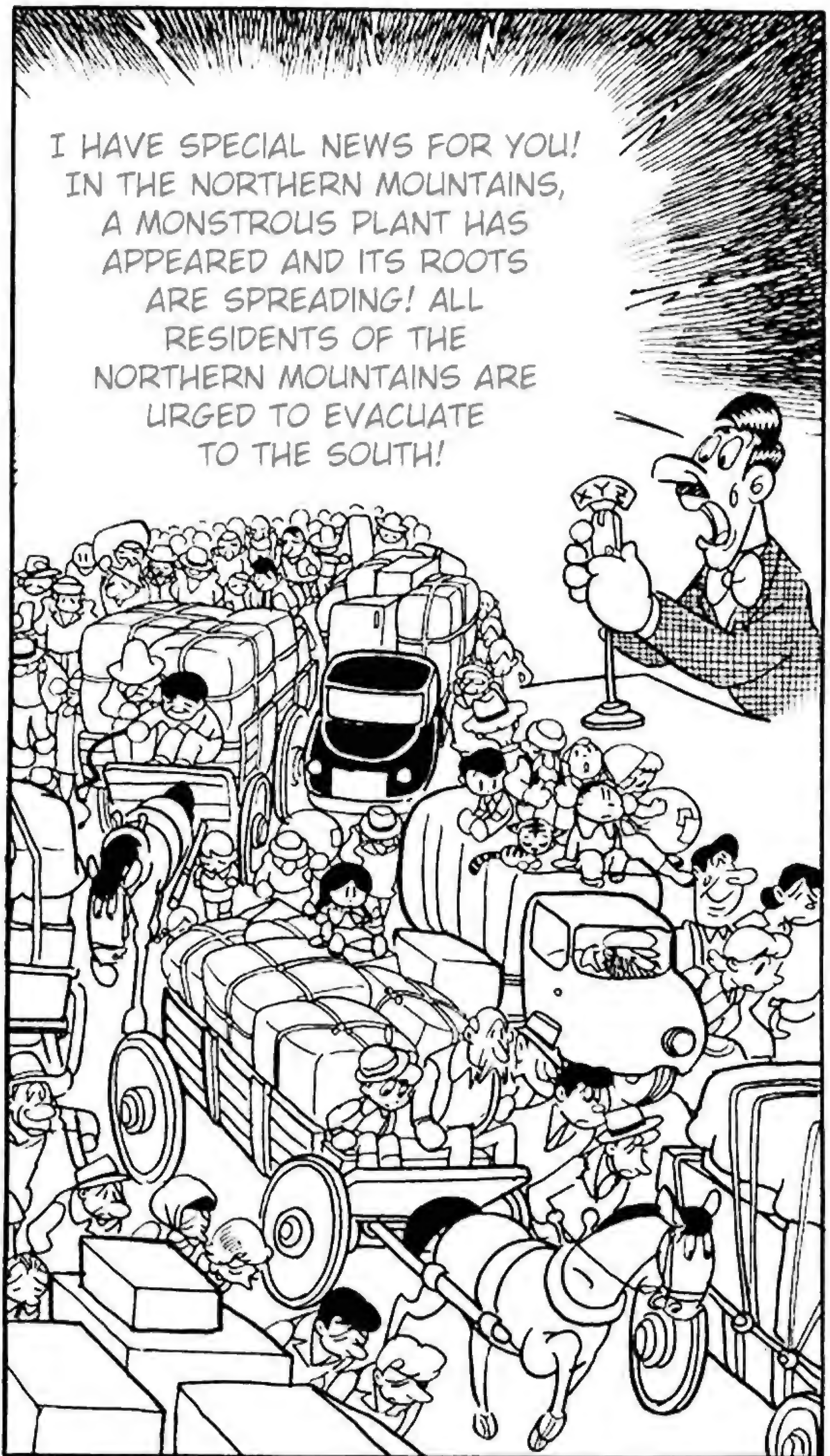
IT'S A RADIO!

THE OWNER OF THIS HOUSE IS A HAM RADIO OPERATOR!

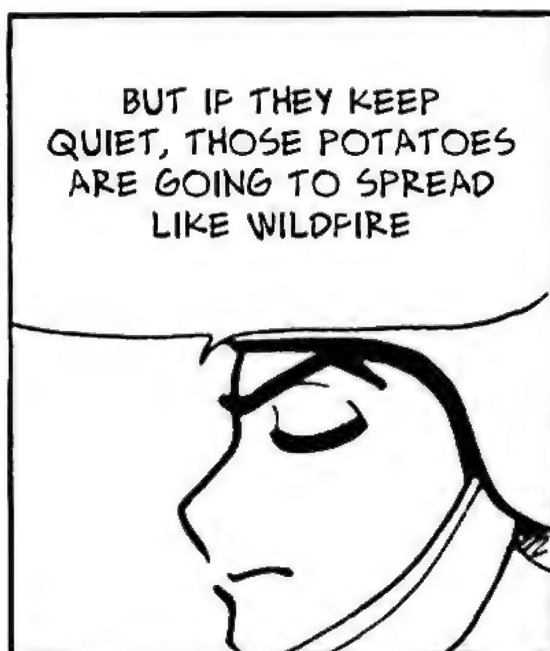

JAPANESE HAM, PLEASE TELL DR. HANAMARU TO SEND HANS ENGEL TO GALEA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.!
SEND HIM TO GALEA!





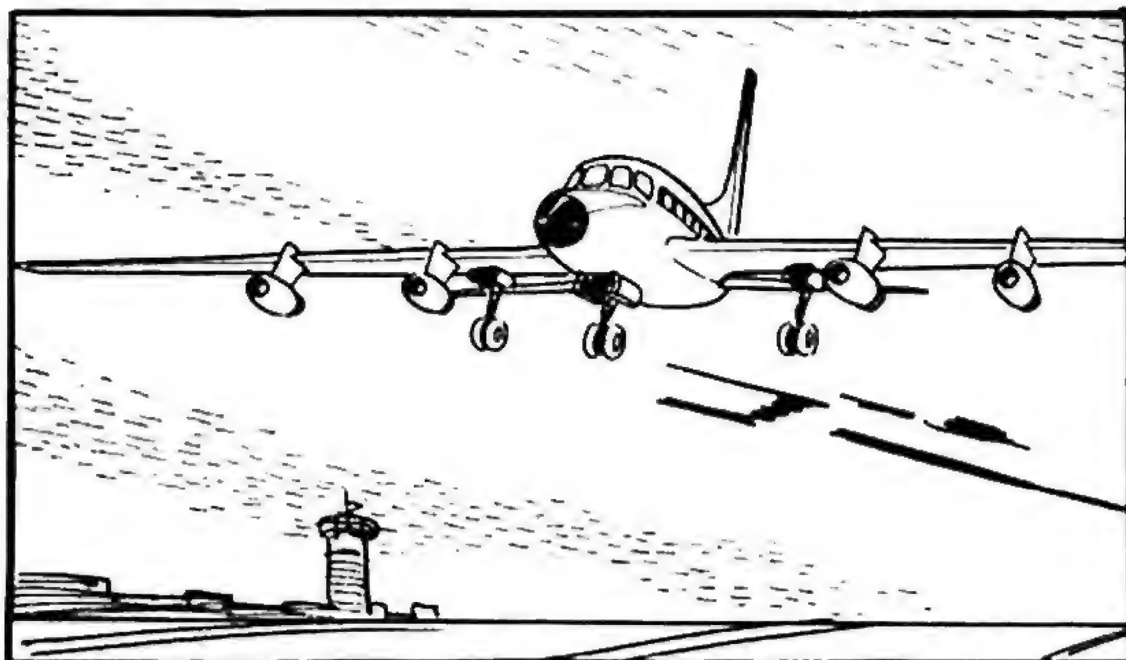

I HAVE SPECIAL NEWS FOR YOU! IN THE NORTHERN MOUNTAINS, A MONSTROUS PLANT HAS APPEARED AND ITS ROOTS ARE SPREADING! ALL RESIDENTS OF THE NORTHERN MOUNTAINS ARE URGED TO EVACUATE TO THE SOUTH!

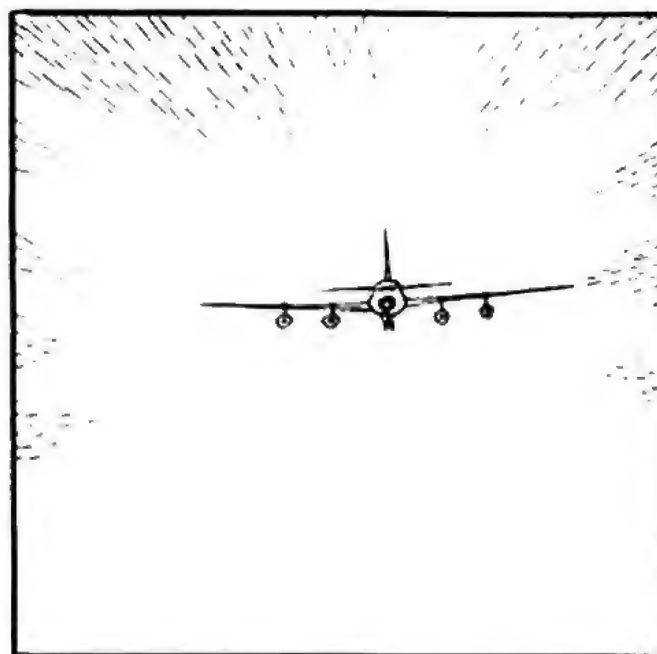

WHY DOESN'T GALEA ASK FOR HELP FROM OTHER COUNTRIES OR THE U.N.?

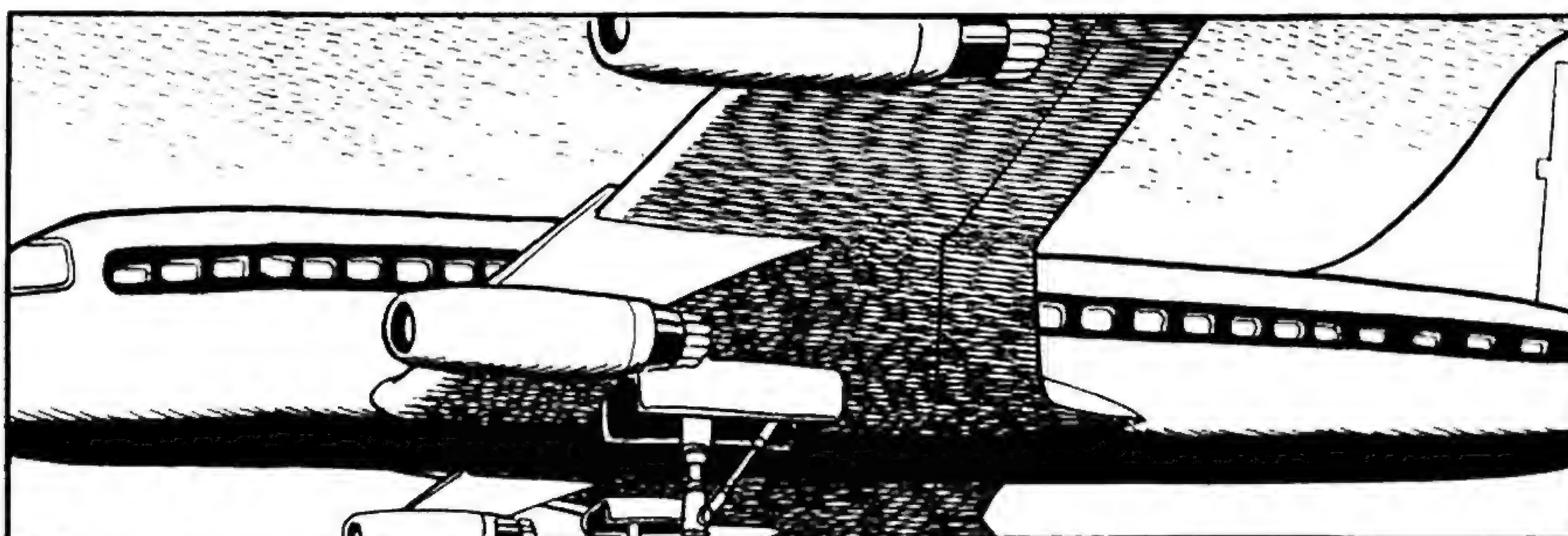

BUT IF THEY KEEP QUIET, THOSE POTATOES ARE GOING TO SPREAD LIKE WILDFIRE


THEY WANT TO KEEP THIS AS QUIET AS POSSIBLE


I'M SURE THEY DON'T WANT US TO KNOW ABOUT THAT SECRET UNDERGROUND FORTRESS.

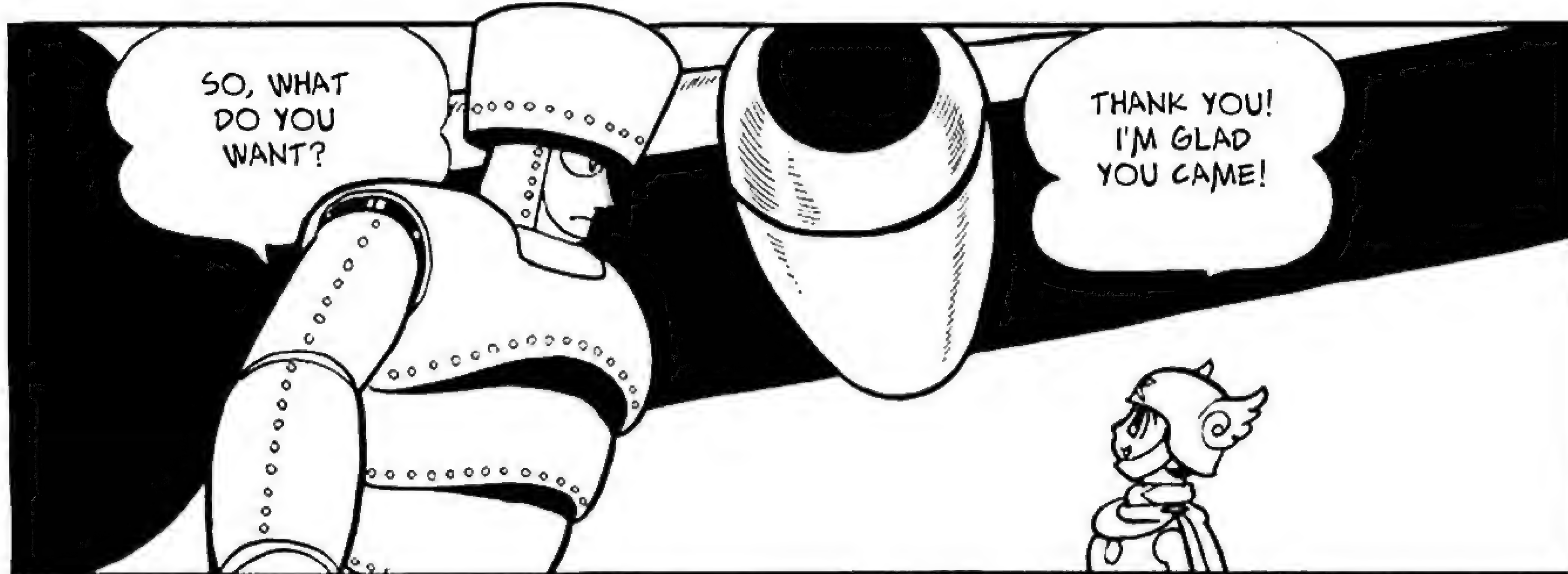


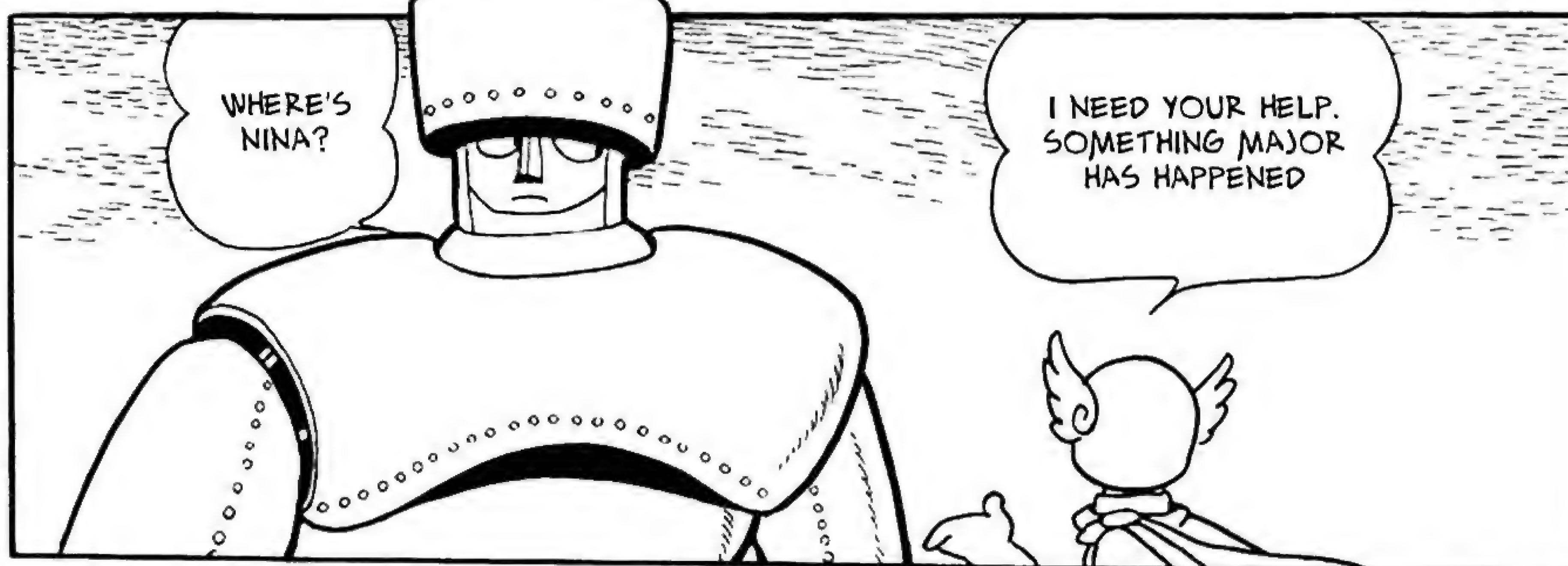




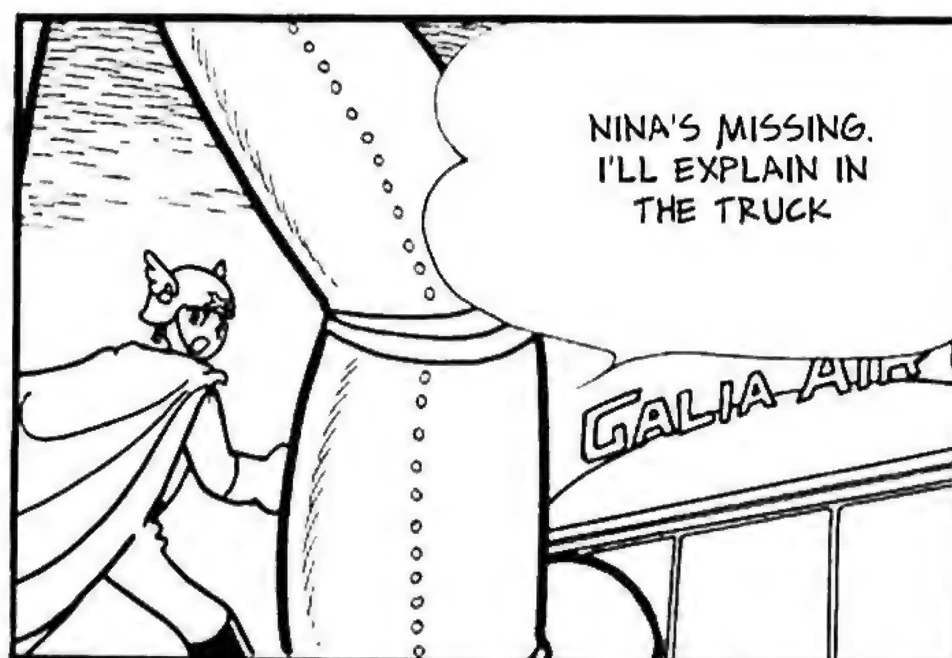
AKIRA .....

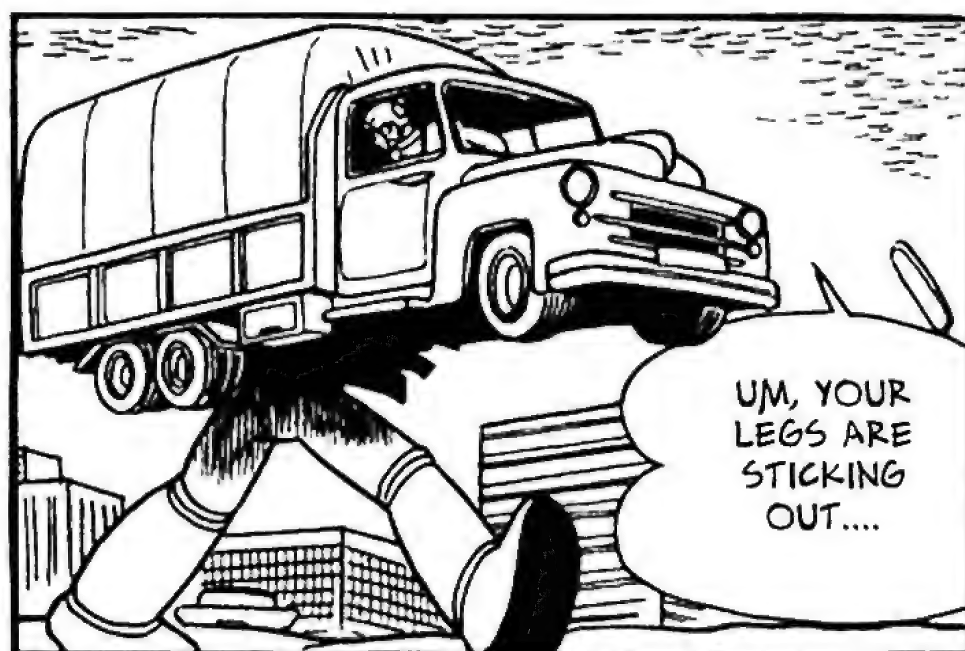
HEY! HANS!


SO, WHAT DO YOU WANT?
THANK YOU! I'M GLAD YOU CAME!

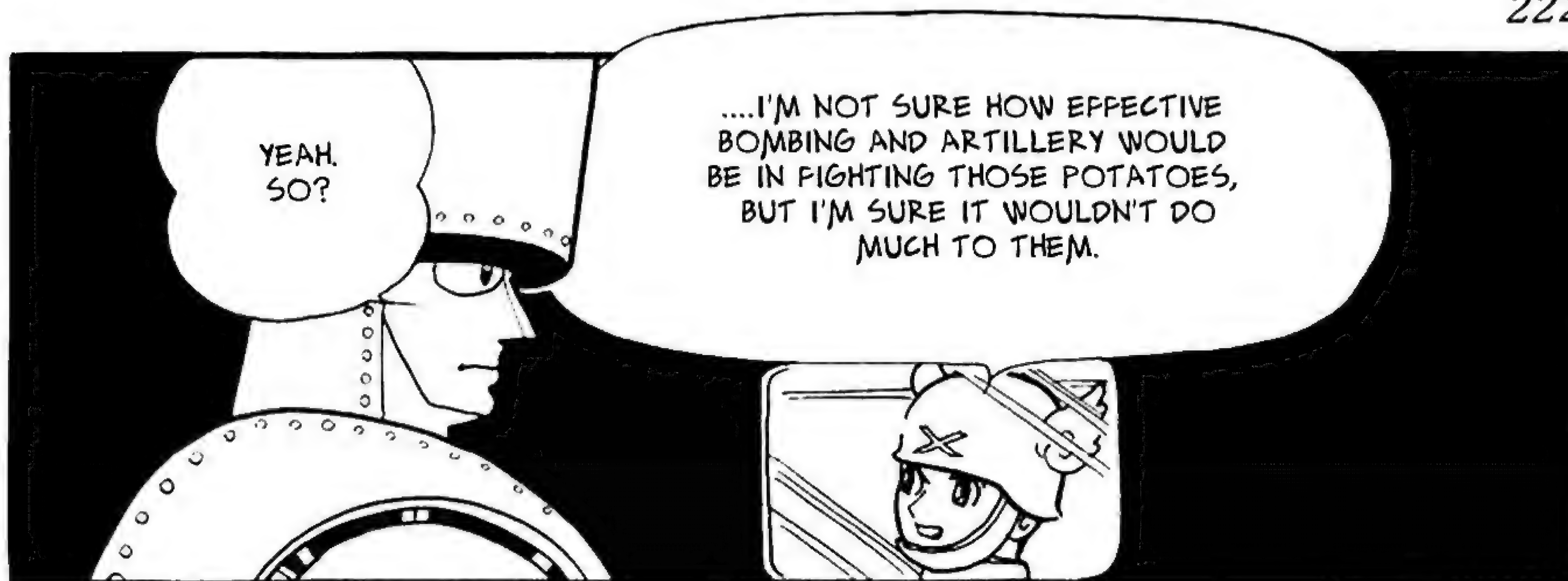

WHERE'S NINA?
I NEED YOUR HELP. SOMETHING MAJOR HAS HAPPENED

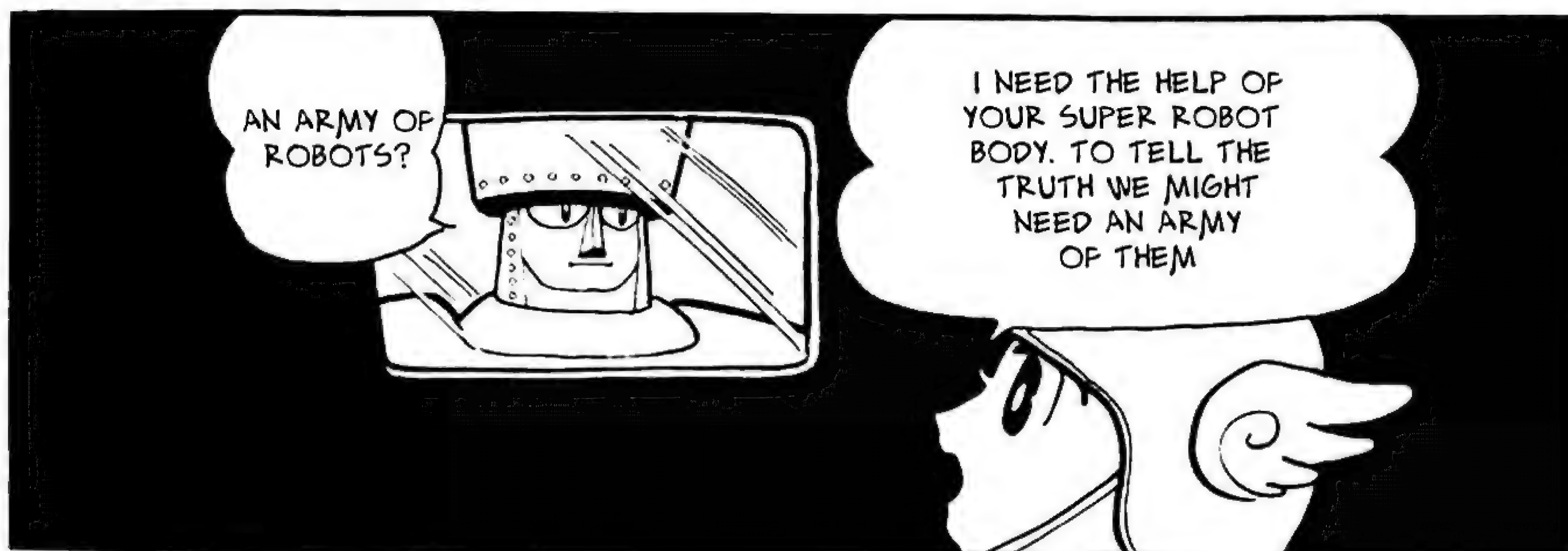

HERE, THIS IS OUR TRUCK


NINA'S MISSING. I'LL EXPLAIN IN THE TRUCK


UM, YOUR LEGS ARE STICKING OUT....

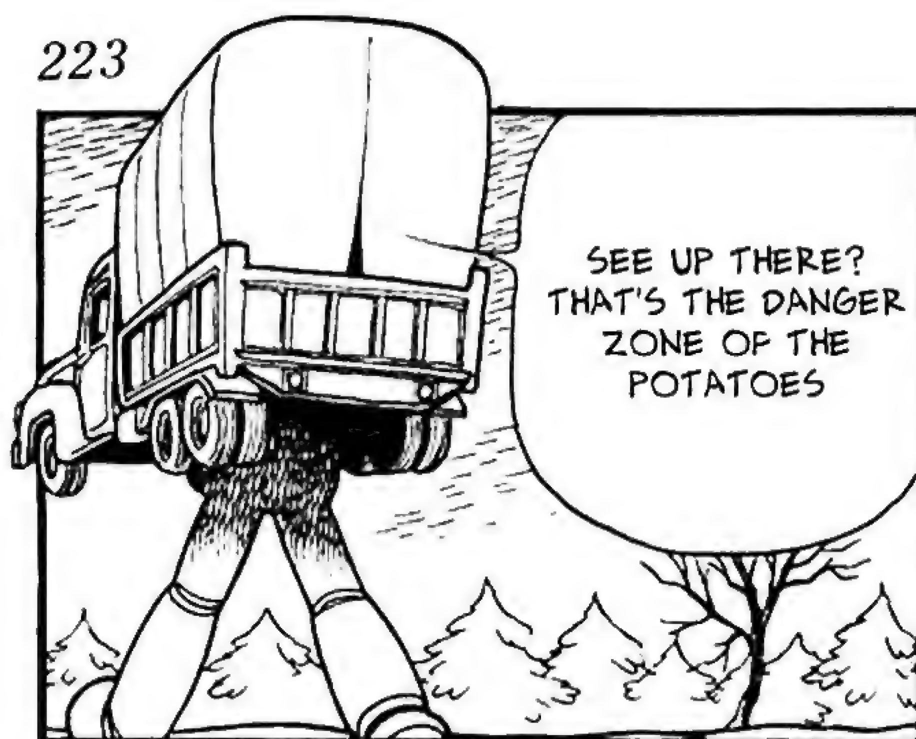


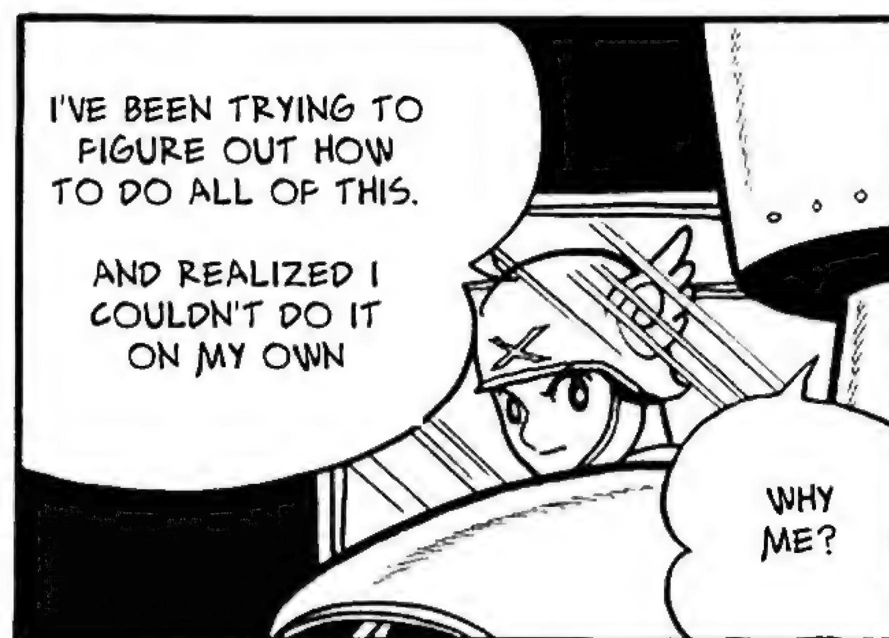

....I'M NOT SURE HOW EFFECTIVE BOMBING AND ARTILLERY WOULD BE IN FIGHTING THOSE POTATOES, BUT I'M SURE IT WOULDN'T DO MUCH TO THEM.
YEAH. SO?

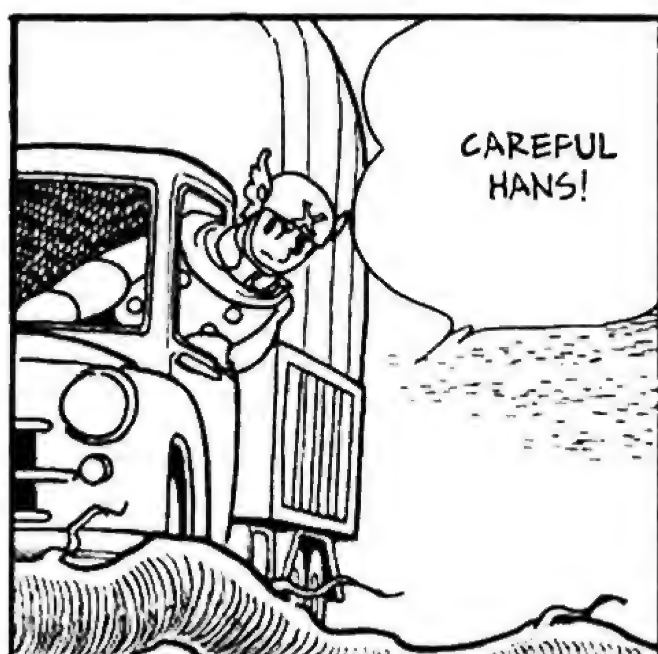

I NEED THE HELP OF YOUR SUPER ROBOT BODY. TO TELL THE TRUTH WE MIGHT NEED AN ARMY OF THEM
AN ARMY OF ROBOTS?


I'M PRETTY SURE YOU KNOW HOW TO HACK THE V-3S
OF COURSE. IT WAS MY GRANDFATHER'S ROBOT.

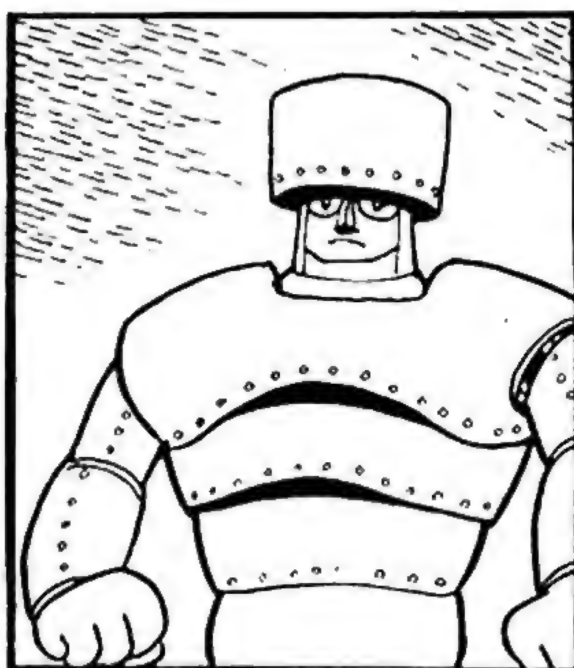

I WANT TO MAKE A LOT OF V-3S AND HAVE THEM FIGHT THE POTATOES... BUT FIRST, I WANT TO FIND OUT WHAT THE POTATOES LOOK LIKE.
I NEED YOU TO GO TO THE UNDERGROUND FORTRESS AND CHECK IT OUT.

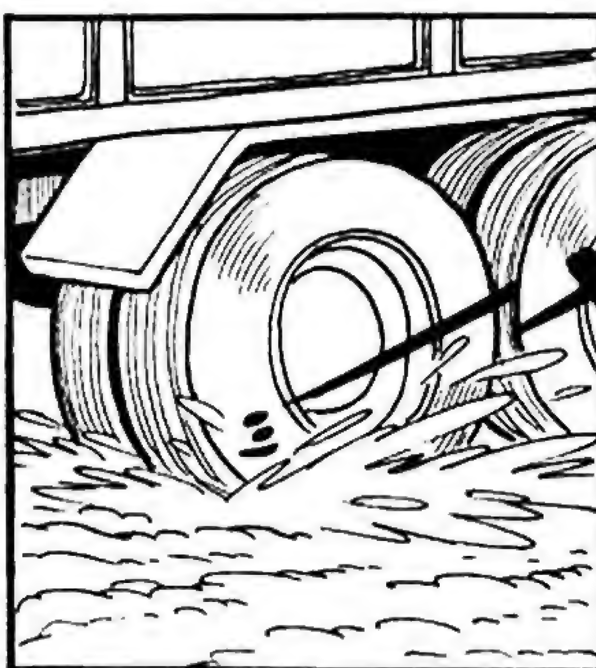

SEE UP THERE? THAT'S THE DANGER ZONE OF THE POTATOES

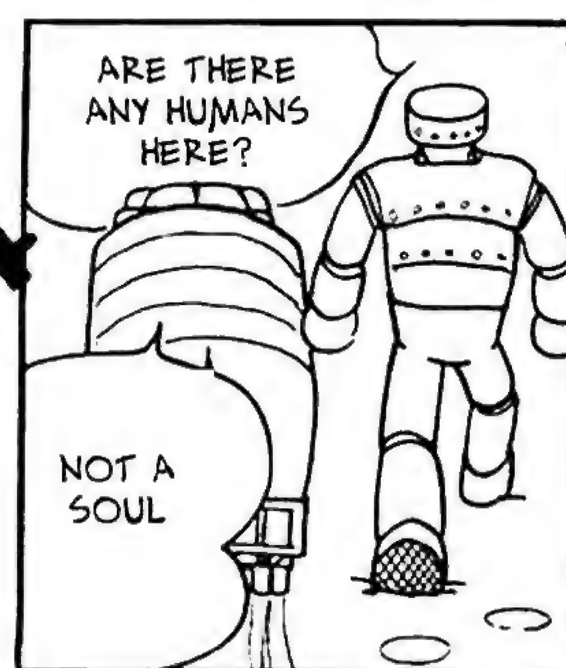

I'VE BEEN TRYING TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO DO ALL OF THIS.
AND REALIZED I COULDN'T DO IT ON MY OWN
WHY ME?

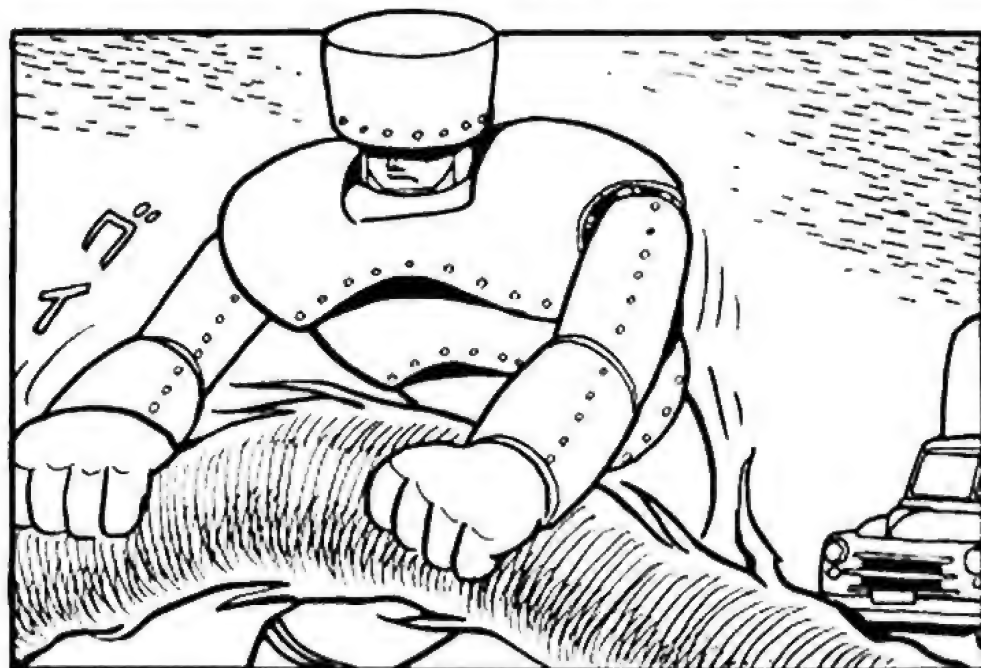

CAREFUL HANS!

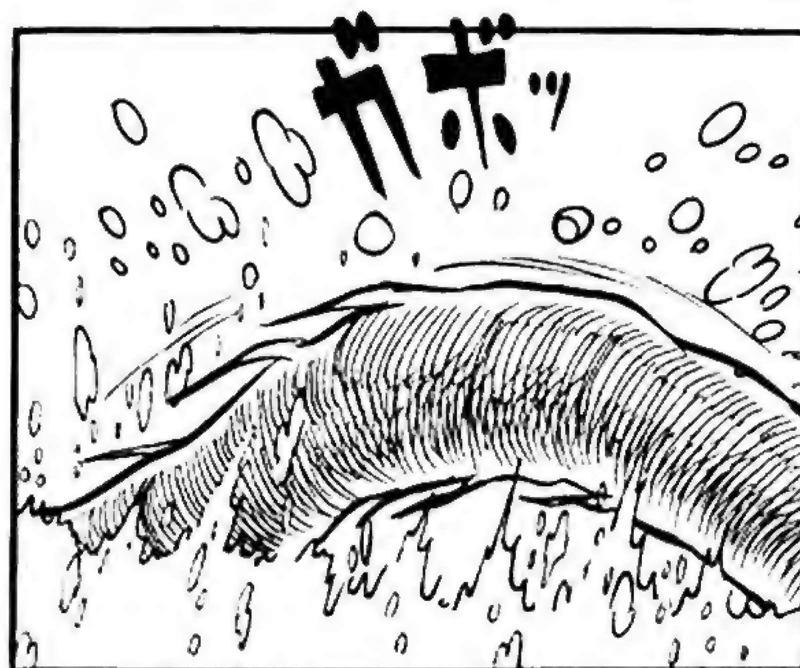

THERE... THERE THEY ARE

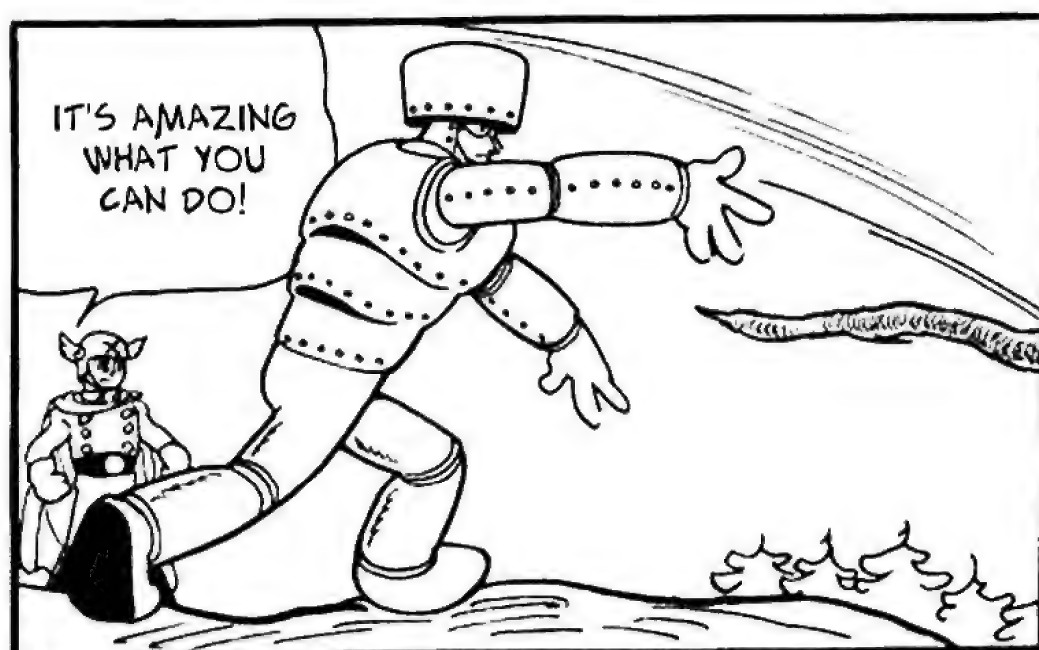




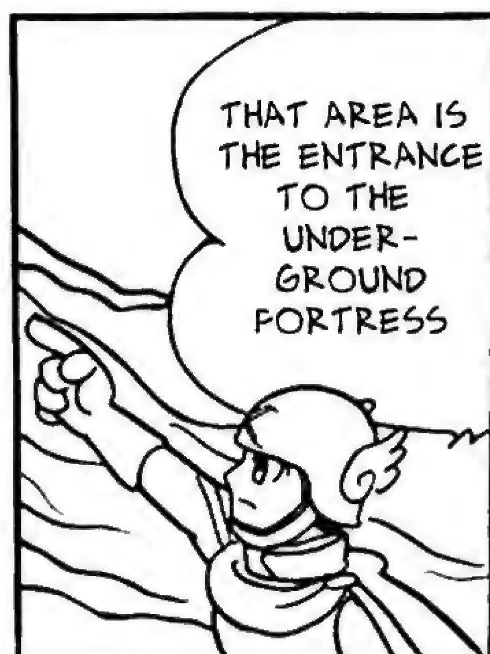

ARE THERE ANY HUMANS HERE?
NOT A SOUL

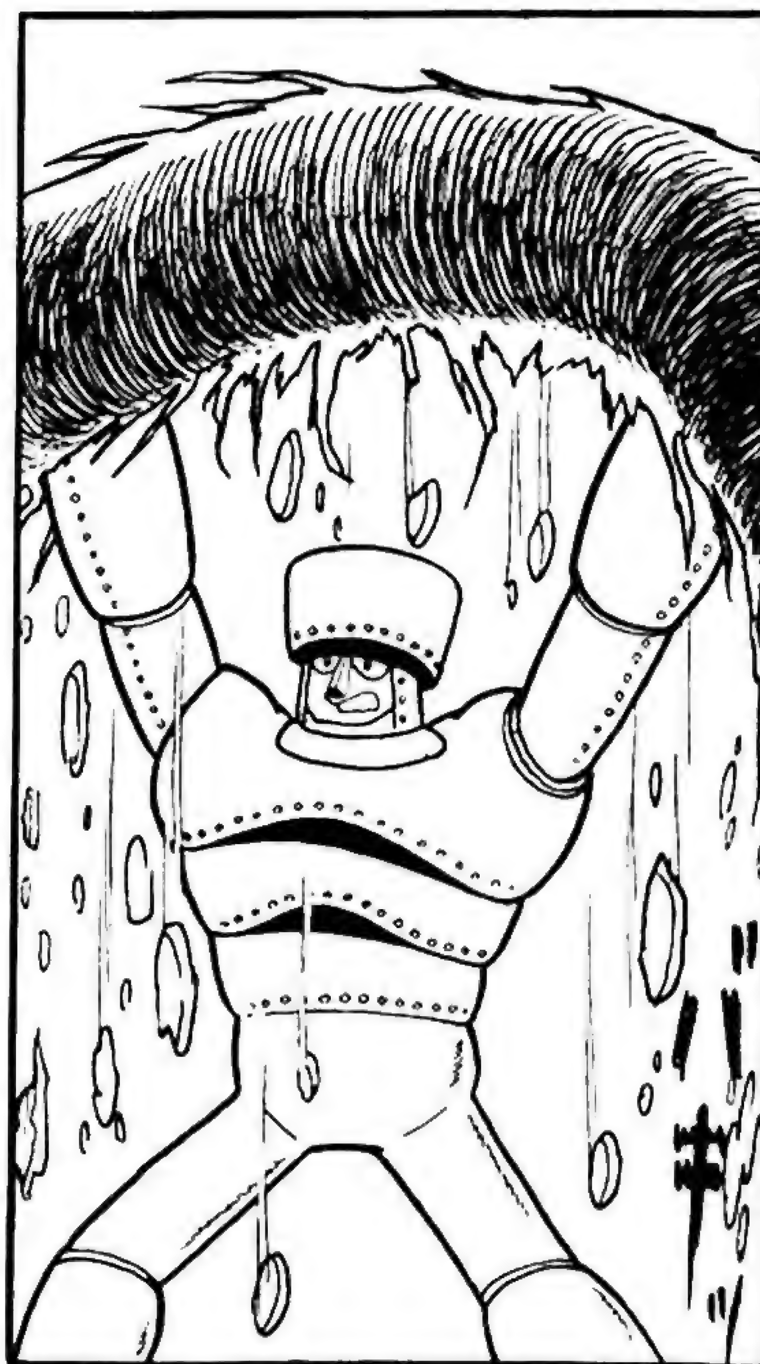



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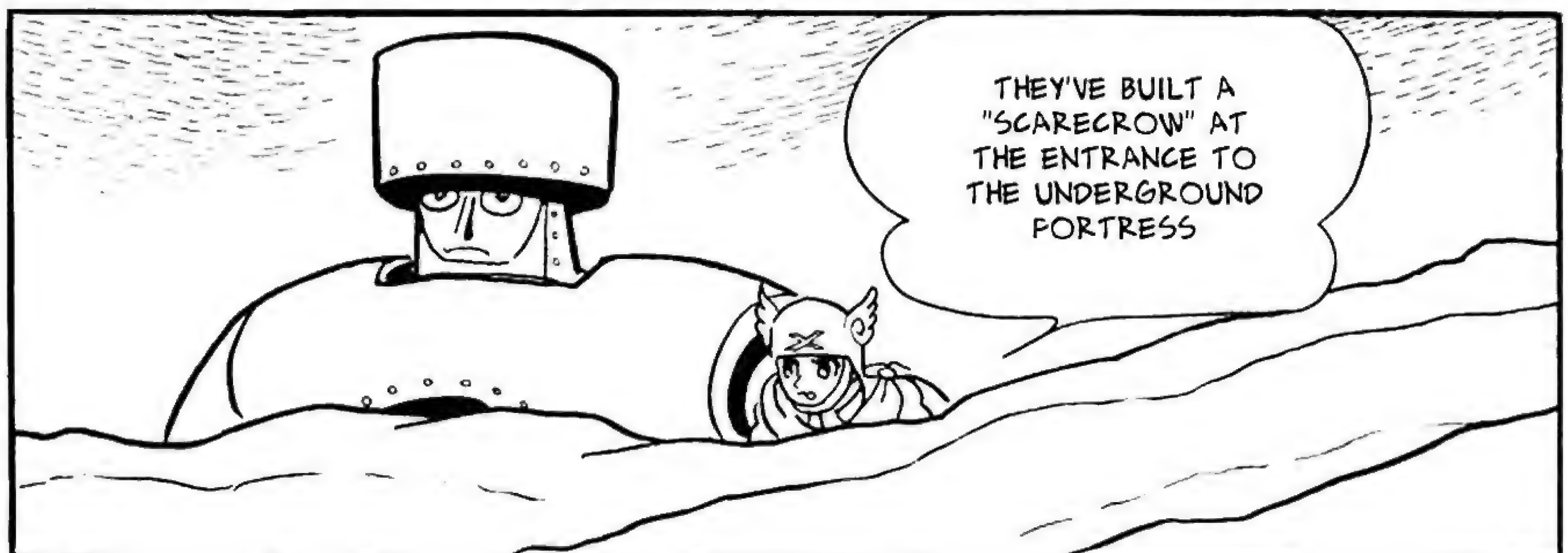

IT'S AMAZING WHAT YOU CAN DO!

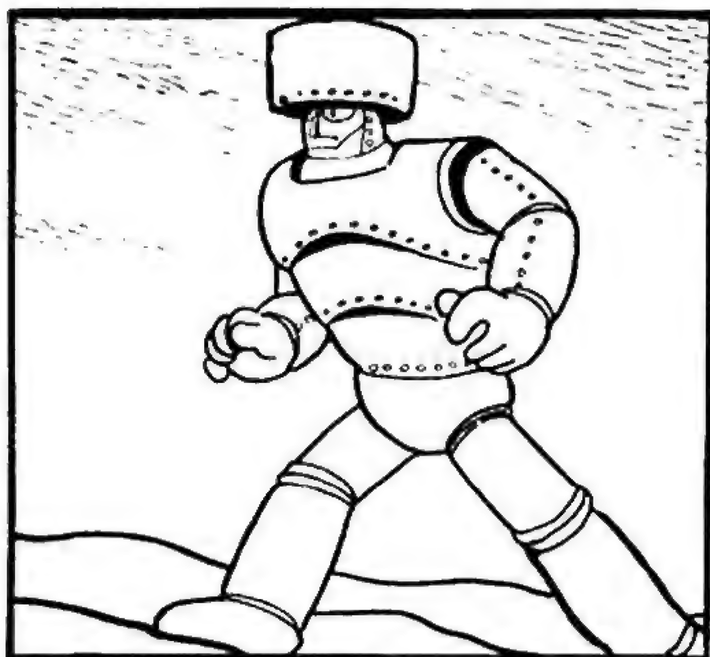

I THINK WE'RE GOING TO NEED A V-3


THAT AREA IS THE ENTRANCE TO THE UNDER-GROUND FORTRESS

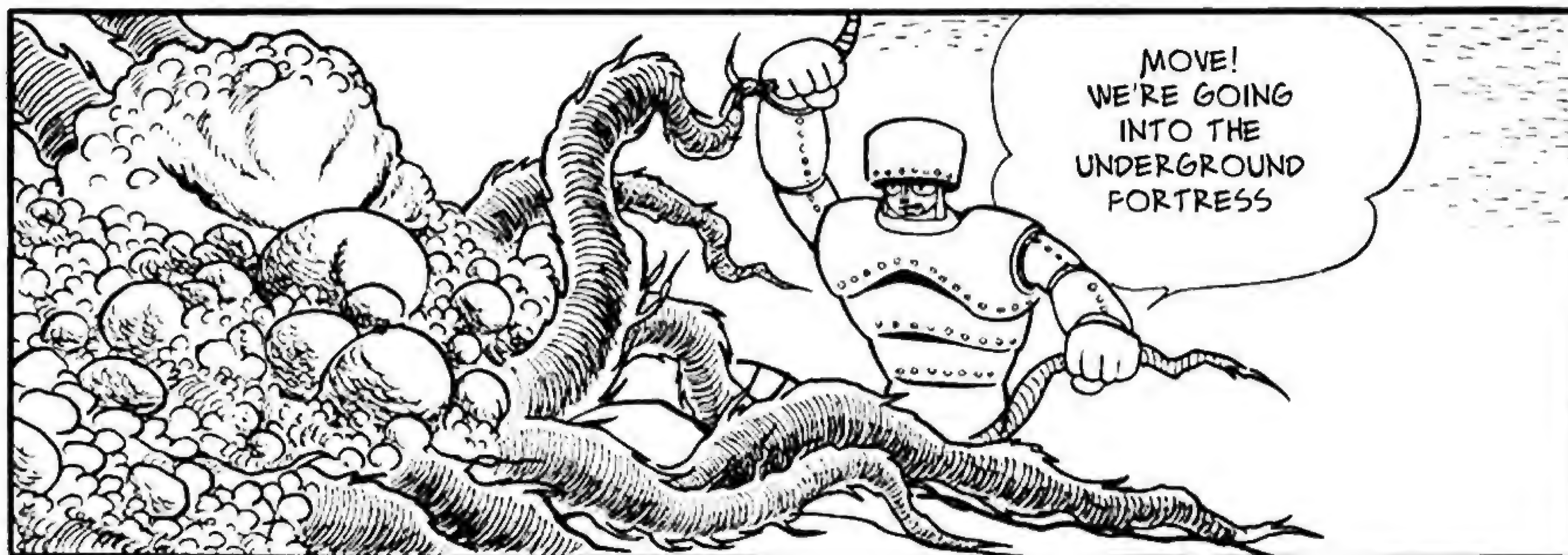


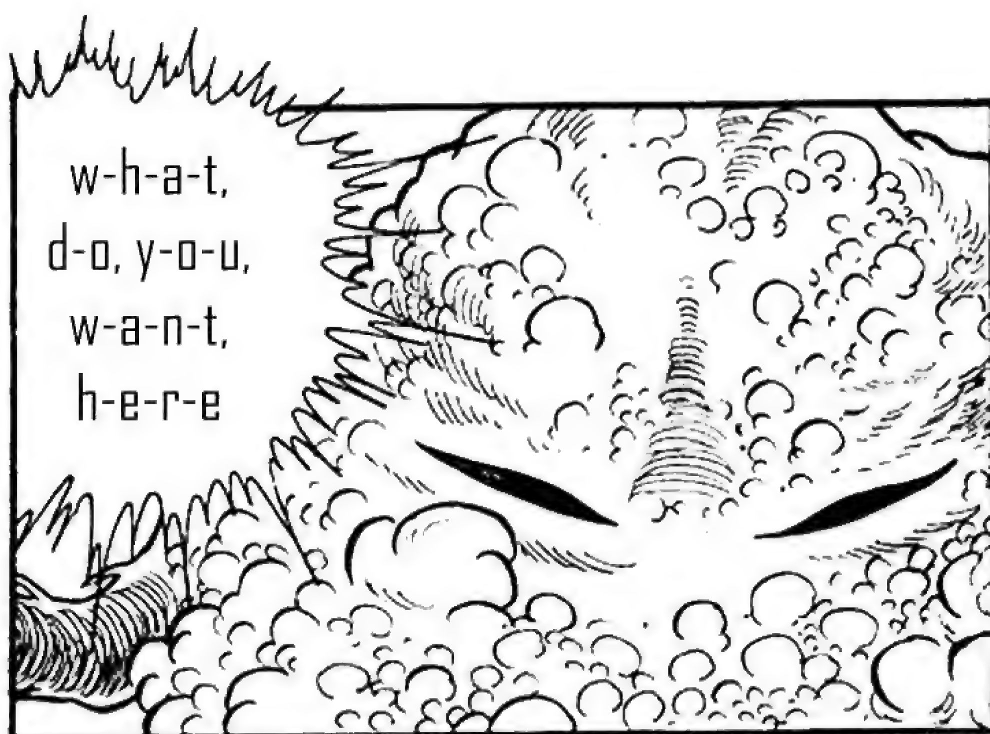
WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?

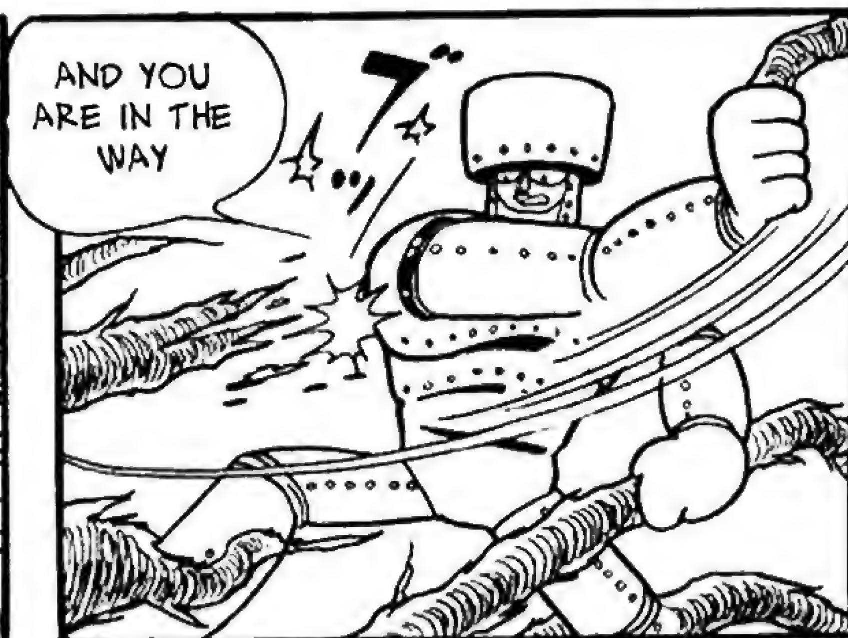

THEY'VE BUILT A "SCARECROW" AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE UNDERGROUND FORTRESS

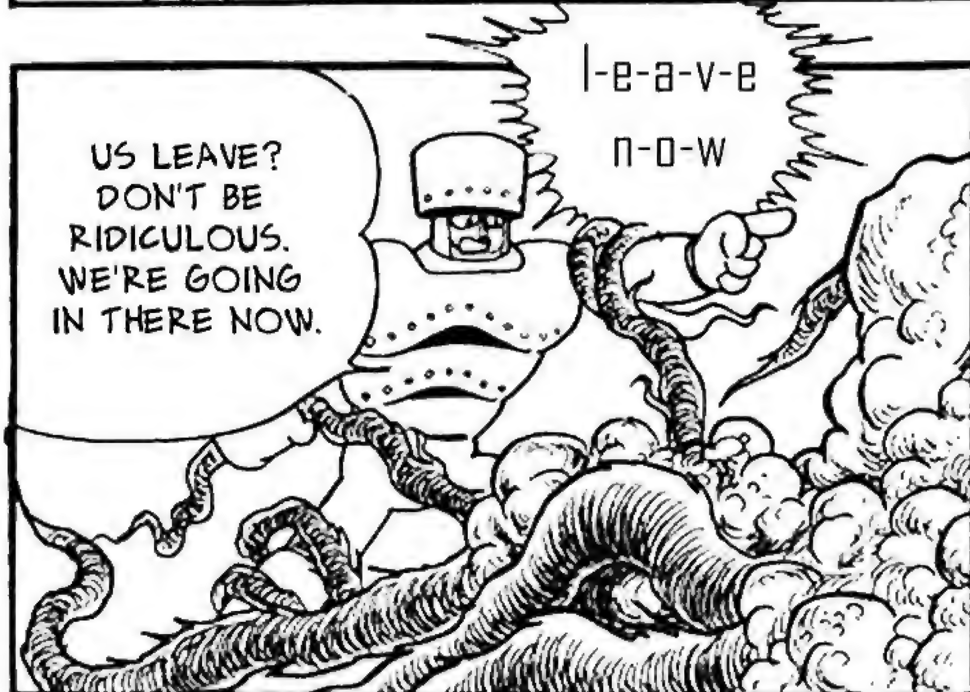


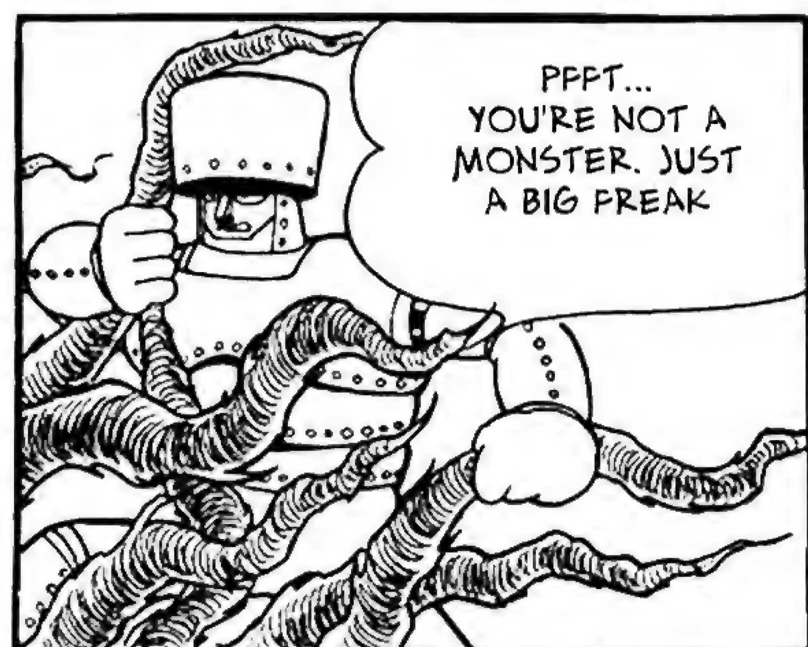

BE CAREFUL HANS! I'M A BIT WORRIED ABOUT YOU
COME ON. I'M GONNA BEAT THE SHIT OUT OF HIM.
OKAY, I'M OFF.


MOVE! WE'RE GOING INTO THE UNDERGROUND FORTRESS

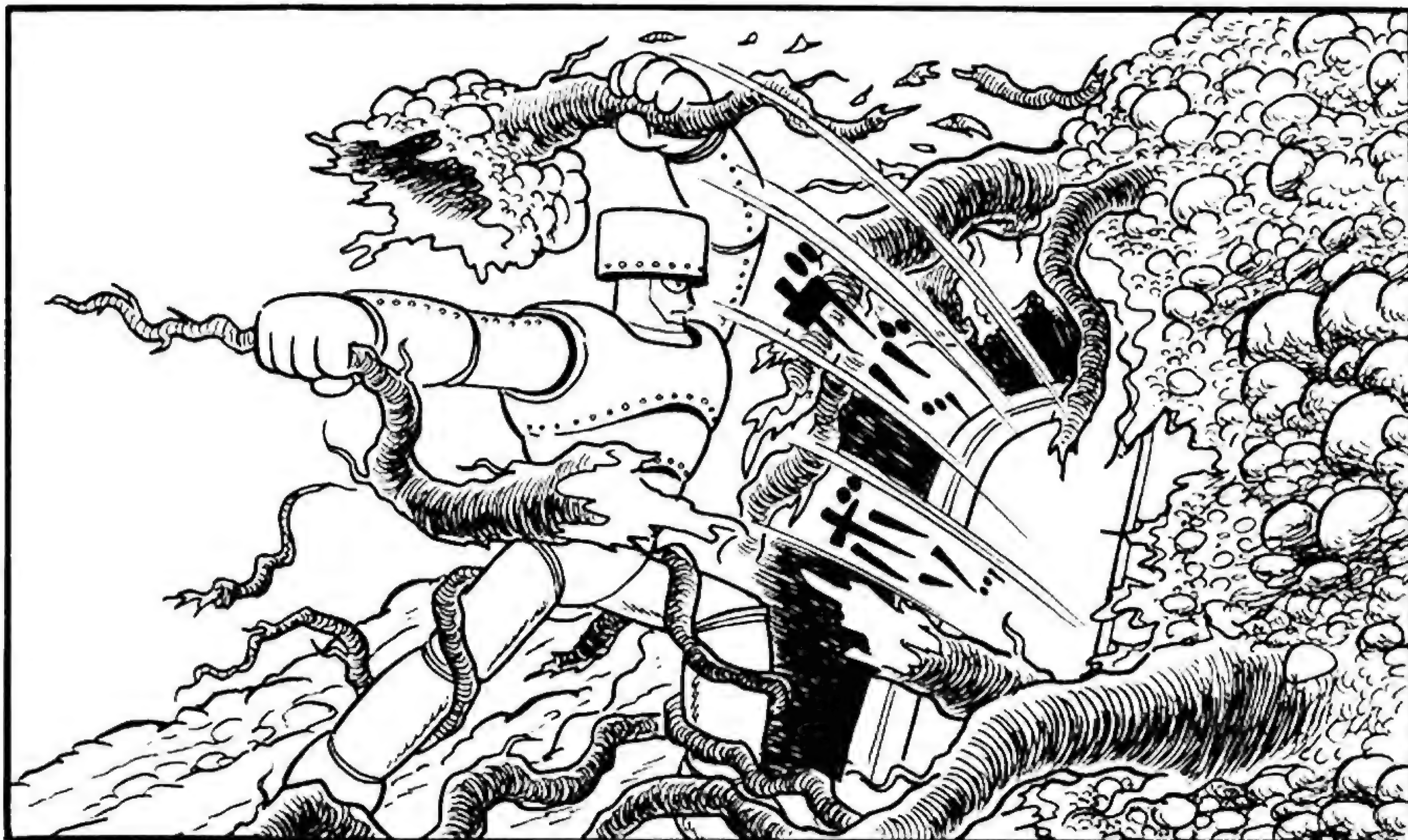

w-h-a-t, d-o, y-o-u, w-a-n-t, h-e-r-e

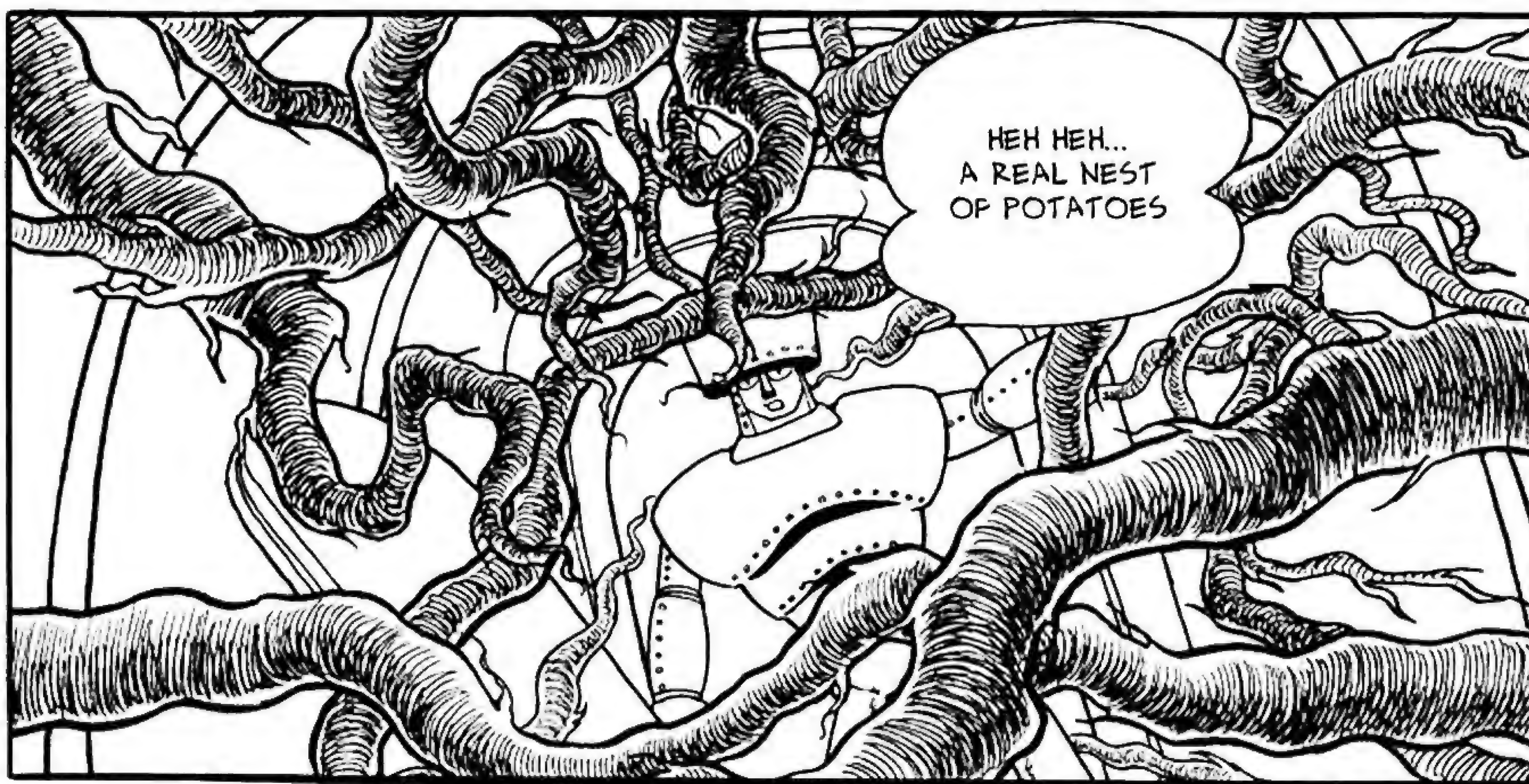

AND YOU ARE IN THE WAY


l-e-a-v-e n-o-w
US LEAVE? DON'T BE RIDICULOUS. WE'RE GOING IN THERE NOW.

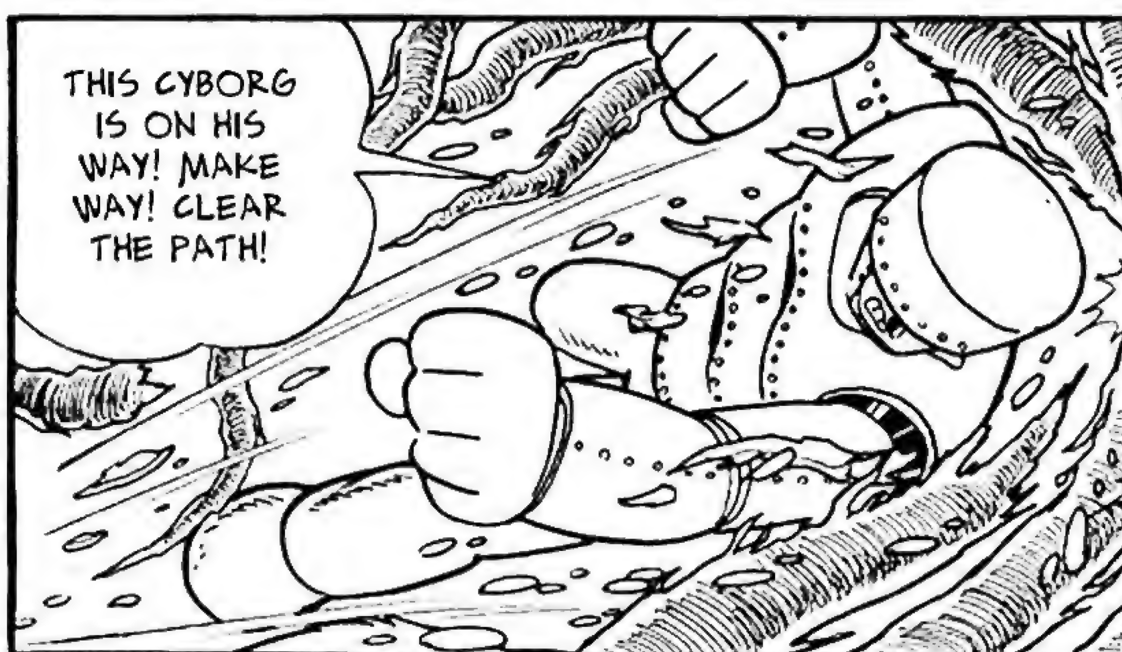

PFFT... YOU'RE NOT A MONSTER. JUST A BIG FREAK

MOVE IT!




HEH HEH... A REAL NEST OF POTATOES

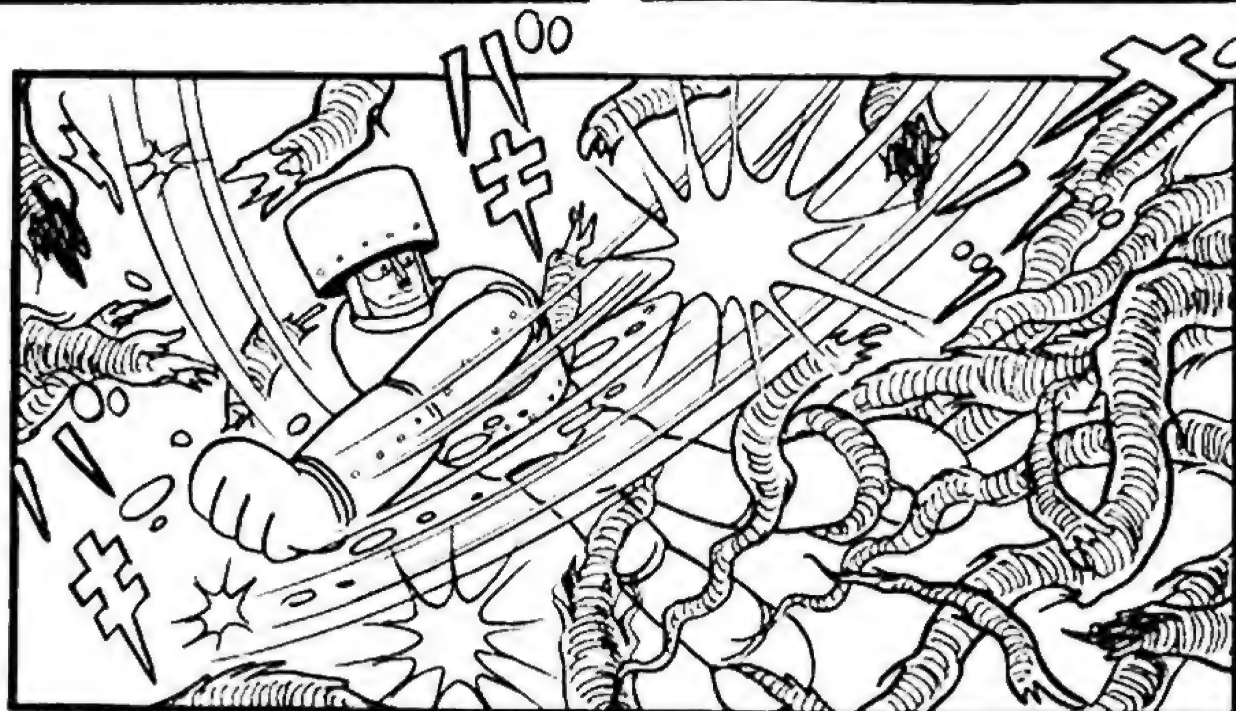


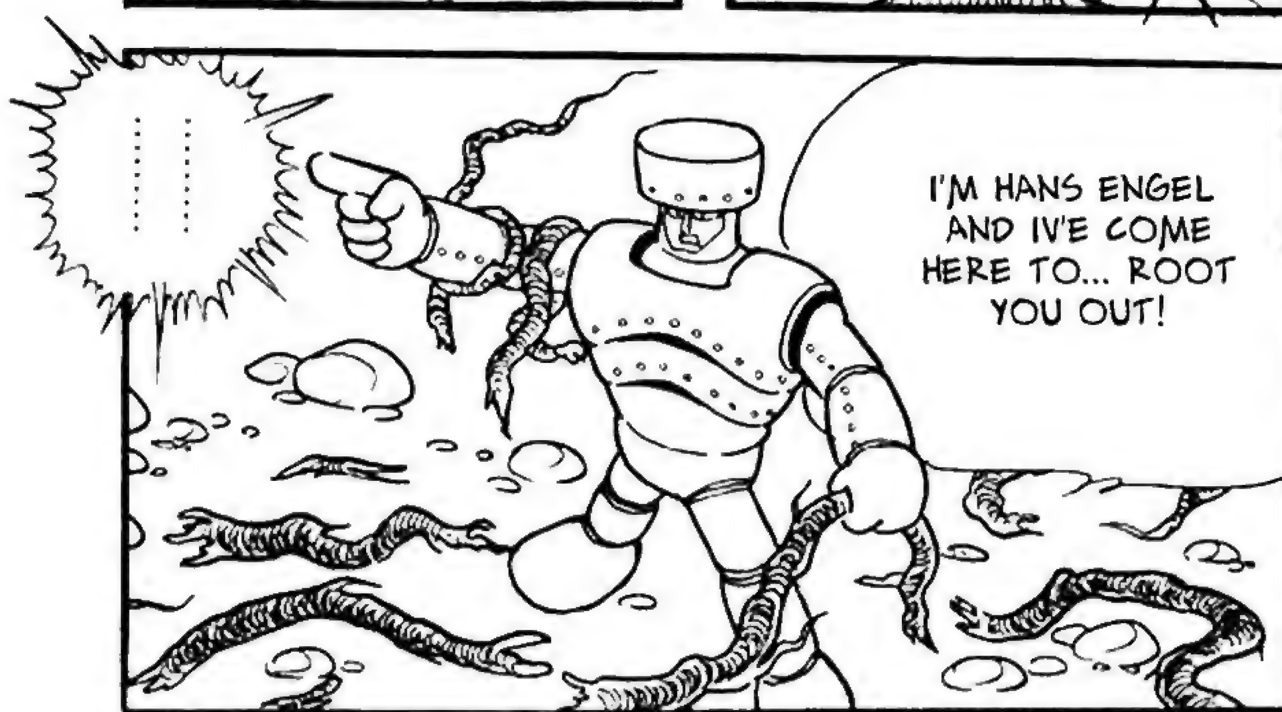

THIS CYBORG IS ON HIS WAY! MAKE WAY! CLEAR THE PATH!

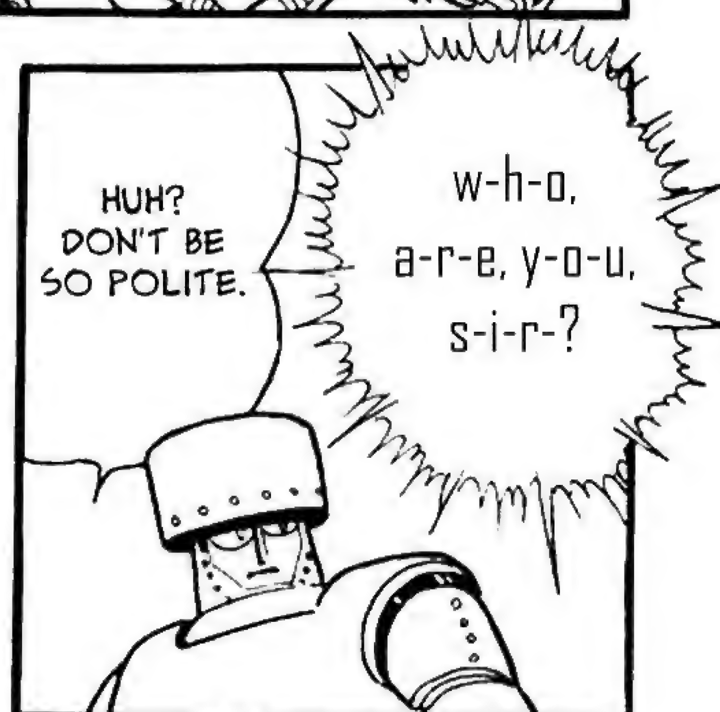


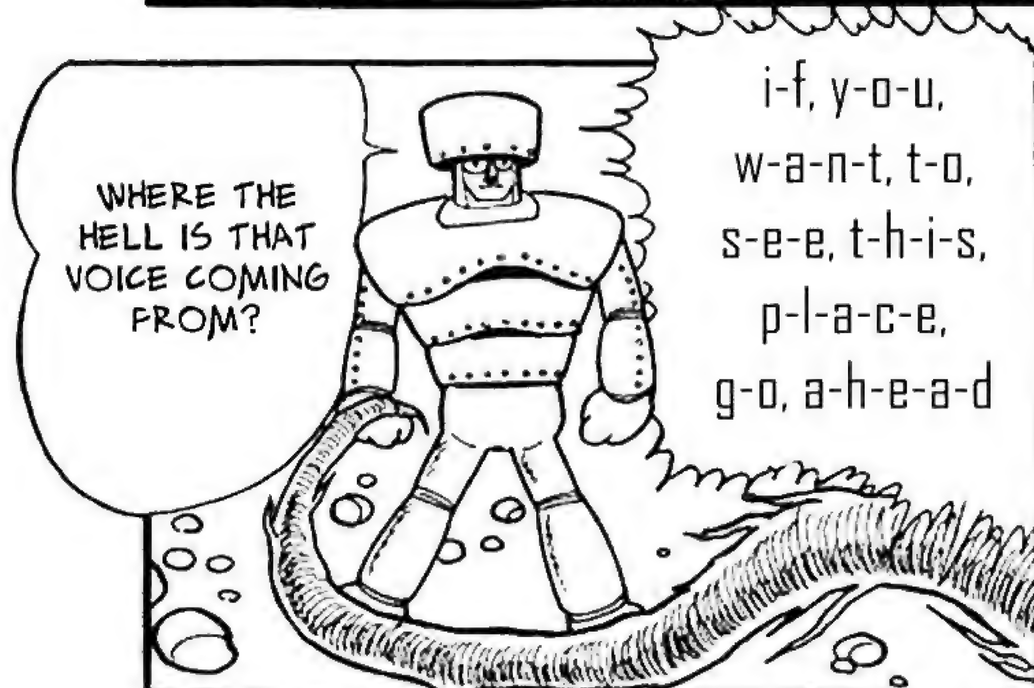

THIS IS A GREAT UNDERGROUND FORTRESS! BETTER THAN THE MAGINOT PORTRESS IN NAZI GERMANY.

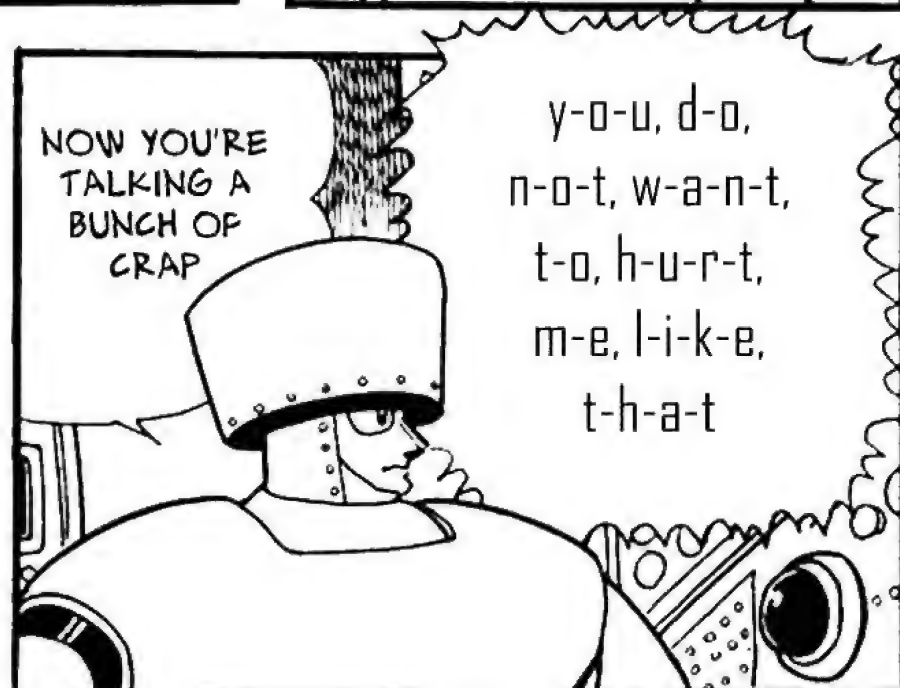

p-l-e-a-s-e w-a-i-t

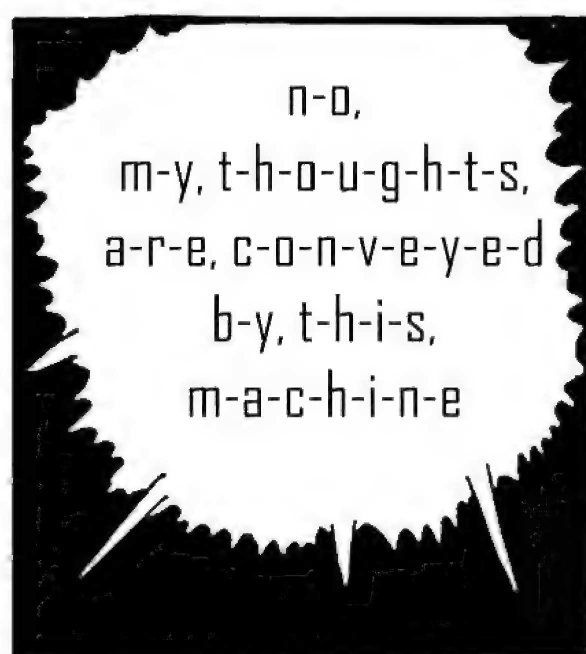


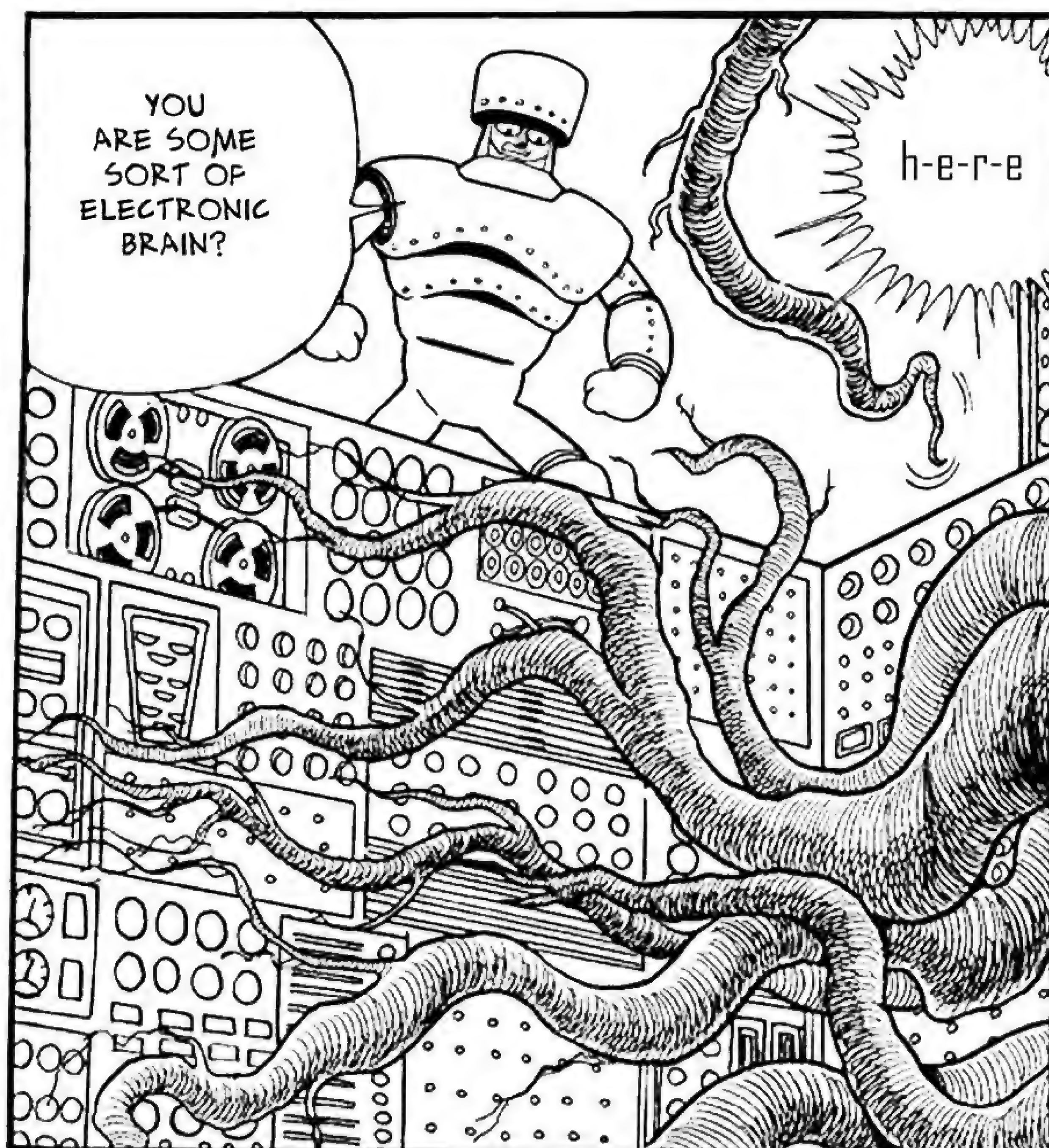

......
I'M HANS ENGEL AND IV'E COME HERE TO... ROOT YOU OUT!

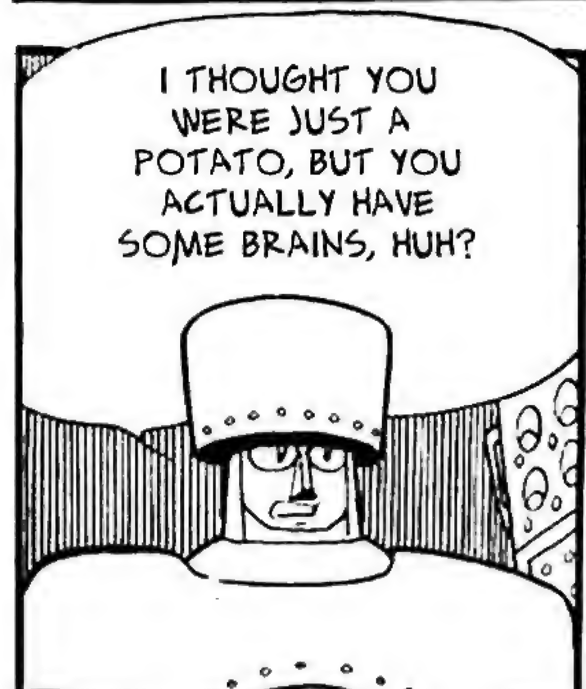

w-h-o, a-r-e, y-o-u, s-i-r-?
HUH? DON'T BE SO POLITE.

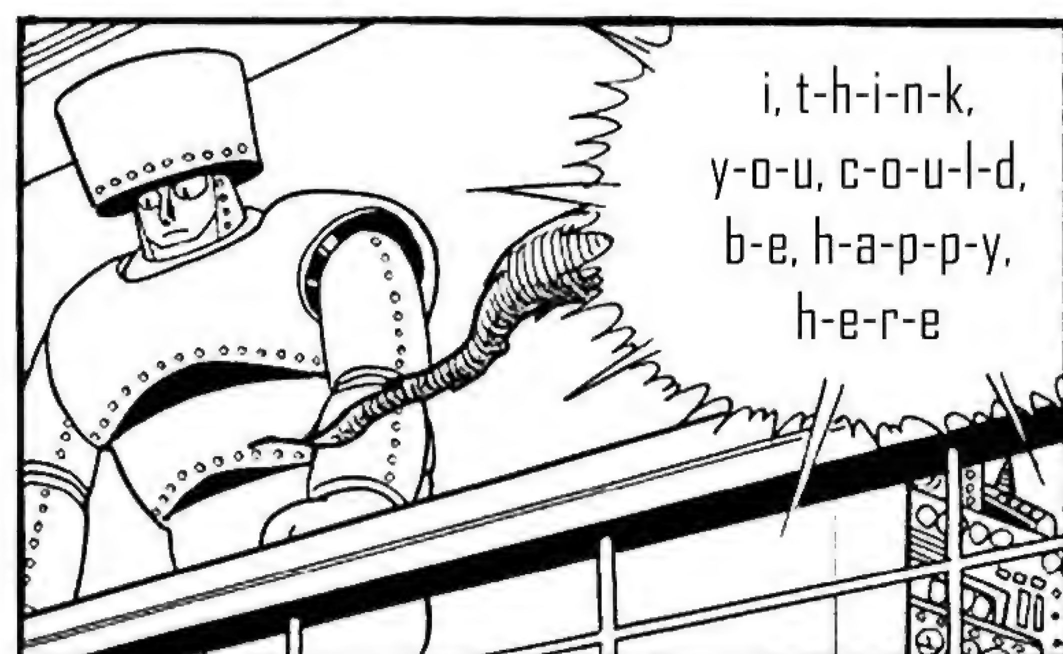

i-f, y-o-u, w-a-n-t, t-o, s-e-e, t-h-i-s, p-l-a-c-e, g-o, a-h-e-a-d
WHERE THE HELL IS THAT VOICE COMING FROM?


NOW YOU'RE TALKING A BUNCH OF CRAP
y-o-u, d-o, n-o-t, w-a-n-t, t-o, h-u-r-t, m-e, l-i-k-e, t-h-a-t

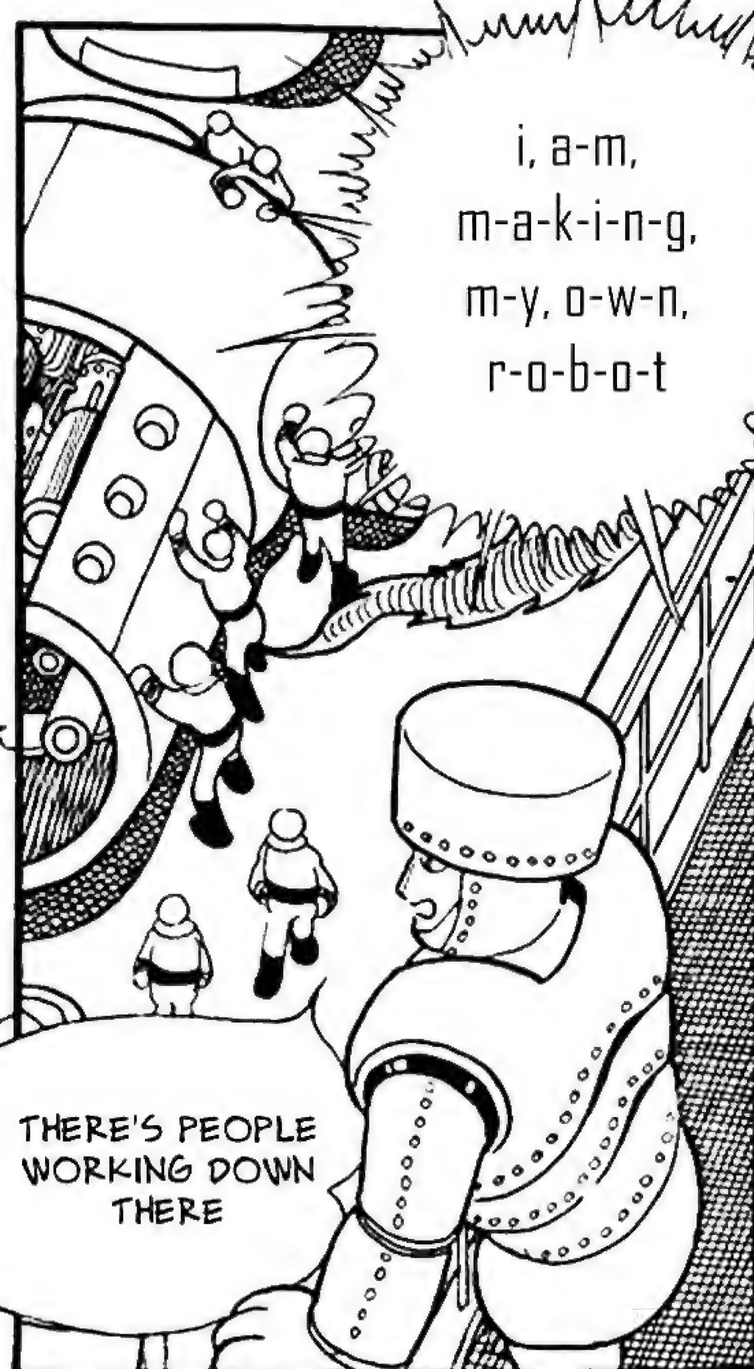

n-o, m-y, t-h-o-u-g-h-t-s, a-r-e, c-o-n-v-e-y-e-d b-y, t-h-i-s, m-a-c-h-i-n-e

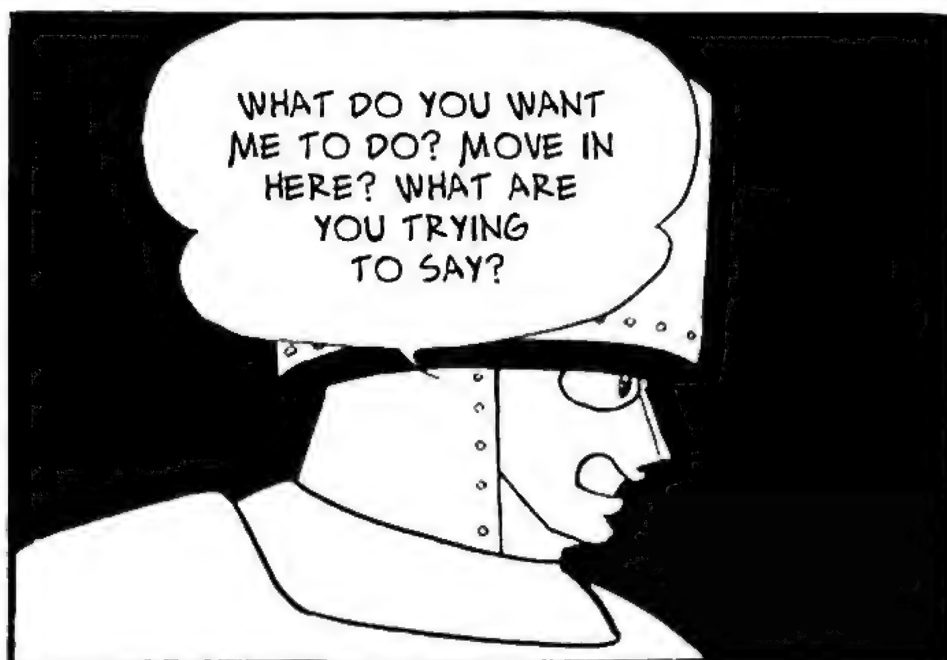

YOU ARE SOME SORT OF ELECTRONIC BRAIN?
h-e-r-e


I THOUGHT YOU WERE JUST A POTATO, BUT YOU ACTUALLY HAVE SOME BRAINS, HUH?

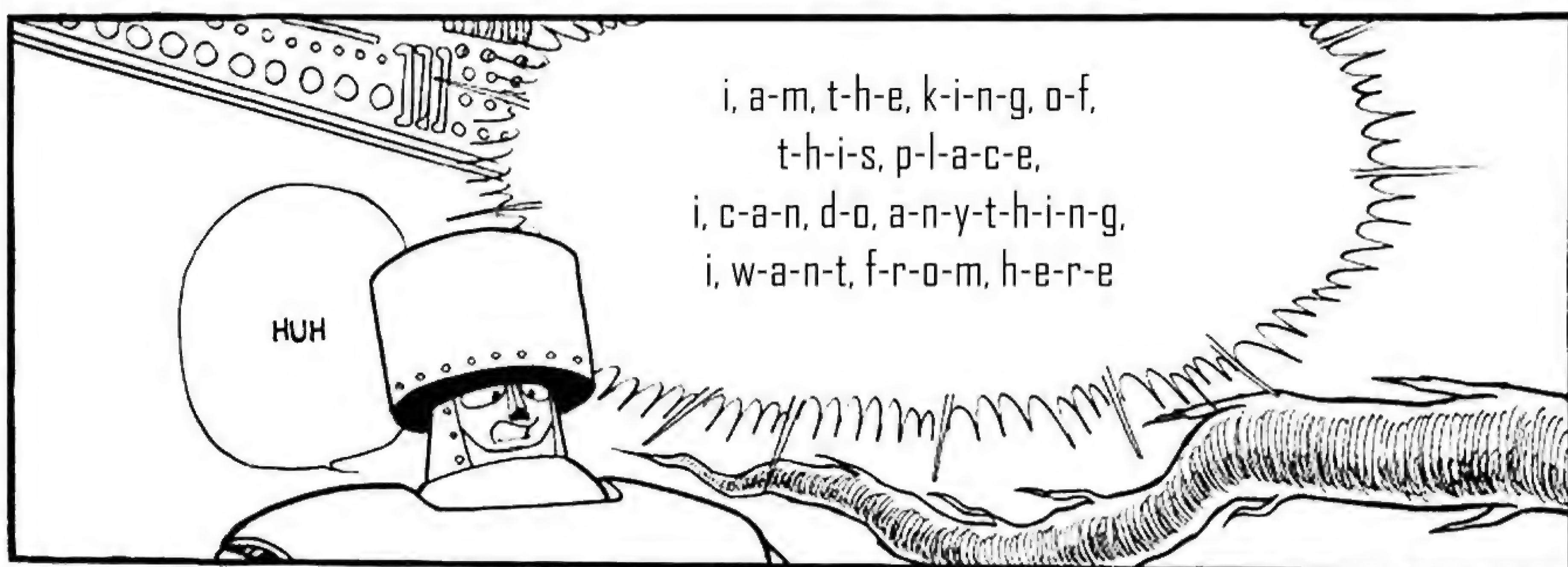

i, t-h-i-n-k, y-o-u, c-o-u-l-d, b-e, h-a-p-p-y, h-e-r-e


IT'S A PRETTY NICE FACILITY. I DO LIKE IT A LOT
d-o, y-o-u, g-e-t, w-h-a-t, i, m-e-a-n-?

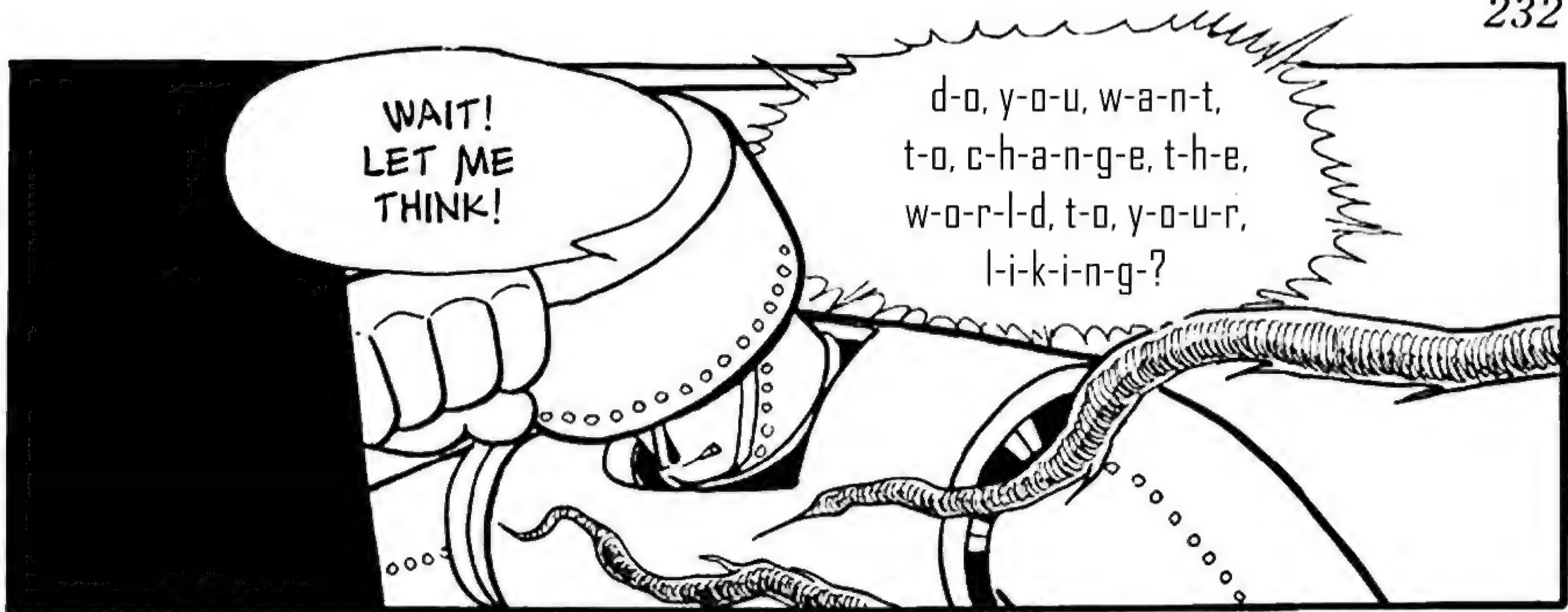

i, a-m, m-a-k-i-n-g, m-y, o-w-n, r-o-b-o-t
THERE'S PEOPLE WORKING DOWN THERE

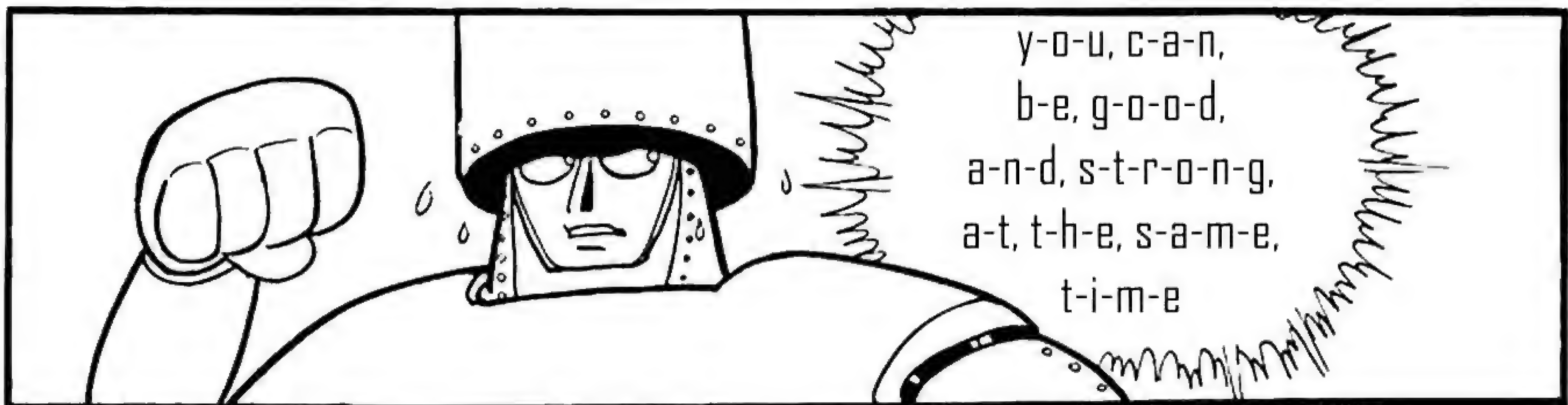

WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO? MOVE IN HERE? WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY?


i-s, t-h-i-s, n-o-t, t-h-e, r-i-g-h-t, p-l-a-c-e t-o, b-e?


i, a-m, t-h-e, k-i-n-g, o-f, t-h-i-s, p-l-a-c-e, i, c-a-n, d-o, a-n-y-t-h-i-n-g, i, w-a-n-t, f-r-o-m, h-e-r-e
HUH

i, w-i-l-l, g-i-v-e, y-o-u, a-l-l, o-f, t-h-a-t, p-o-w-e-r, a-n-d, y-o-u, c-a-n, g-i-v-e, m-e, t-h-e, d-r-u-g, t-h-a-t, m-a-k-e-s, g-i-a-n-t-s
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?





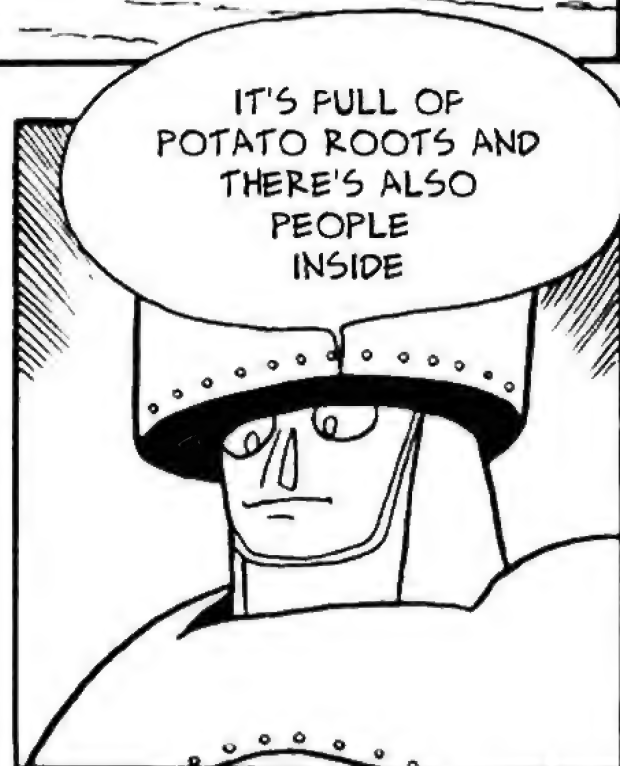
I'LL GET YOU BIG X AND I'LL BE THE MASTER OF THIS FORTRESS

OKAY POTATO MONSTER, YOU SEEM TO KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING

HANS!
HOW'D IT GO
IN THERE?

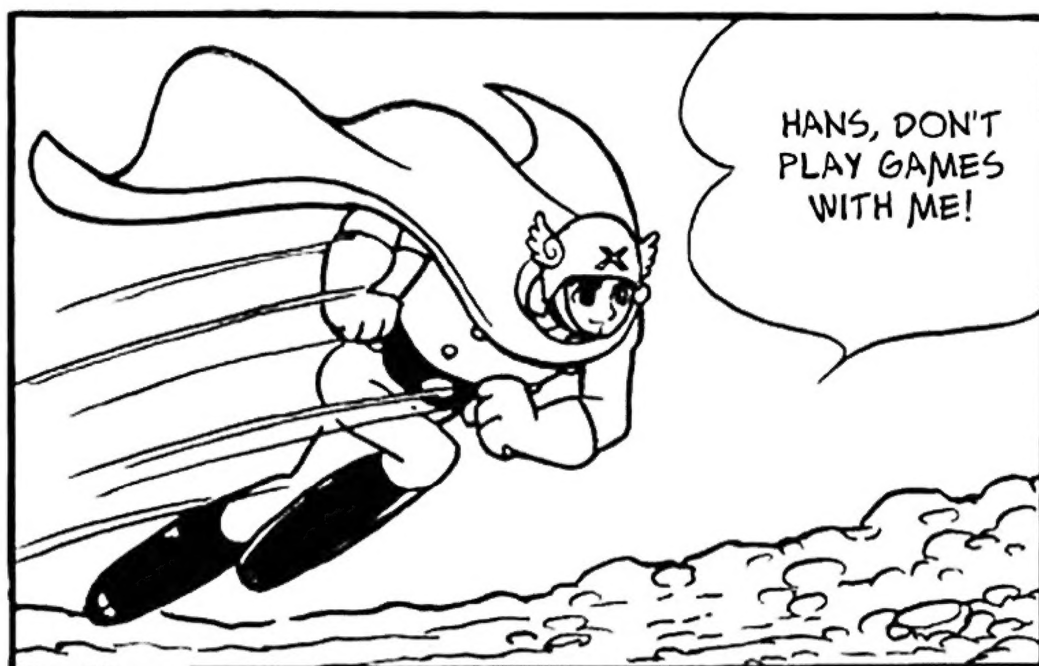


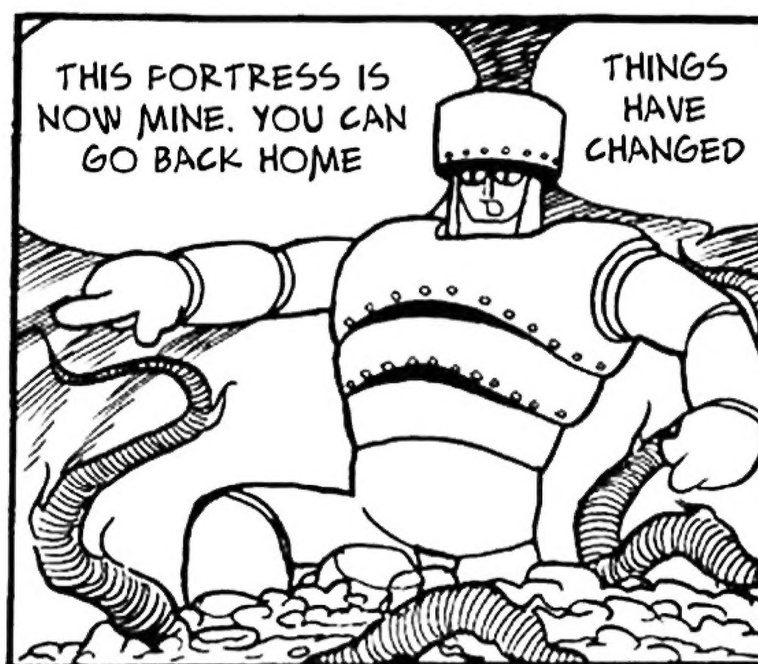






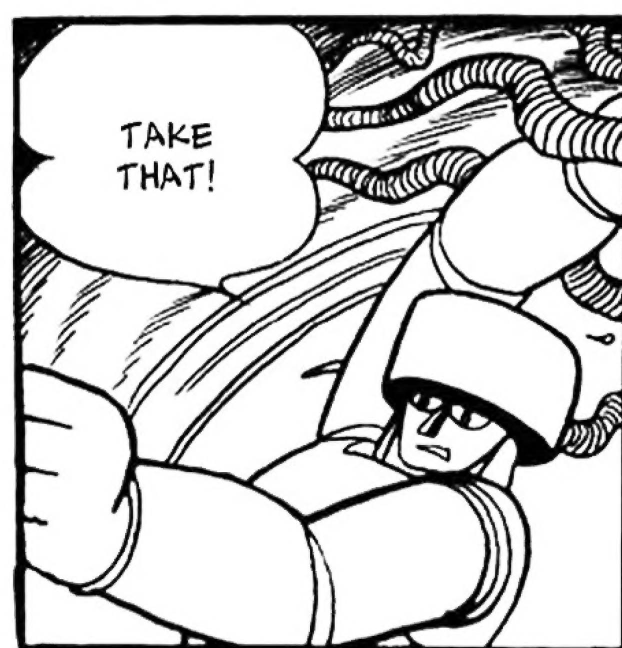



HANS, DON'T PLAY GAMES WITH ME!

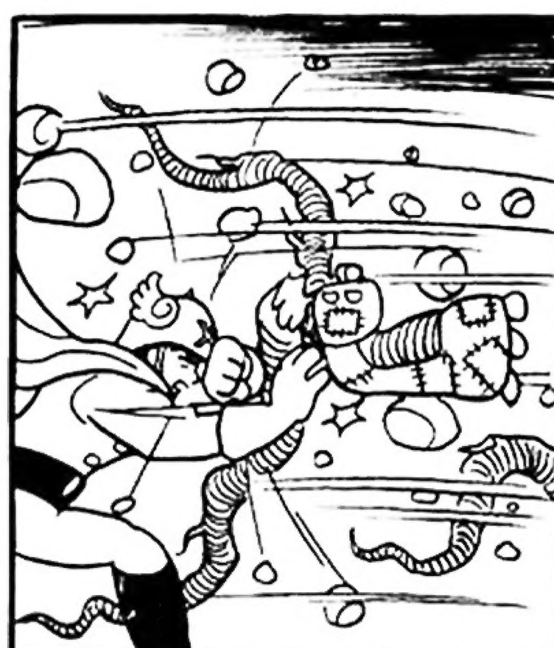

THIS FORTRESS IS NOW MINE. YOU CAN GO BACK HOME
THINGS HAVE CHANGED


WHAT THE HELL?

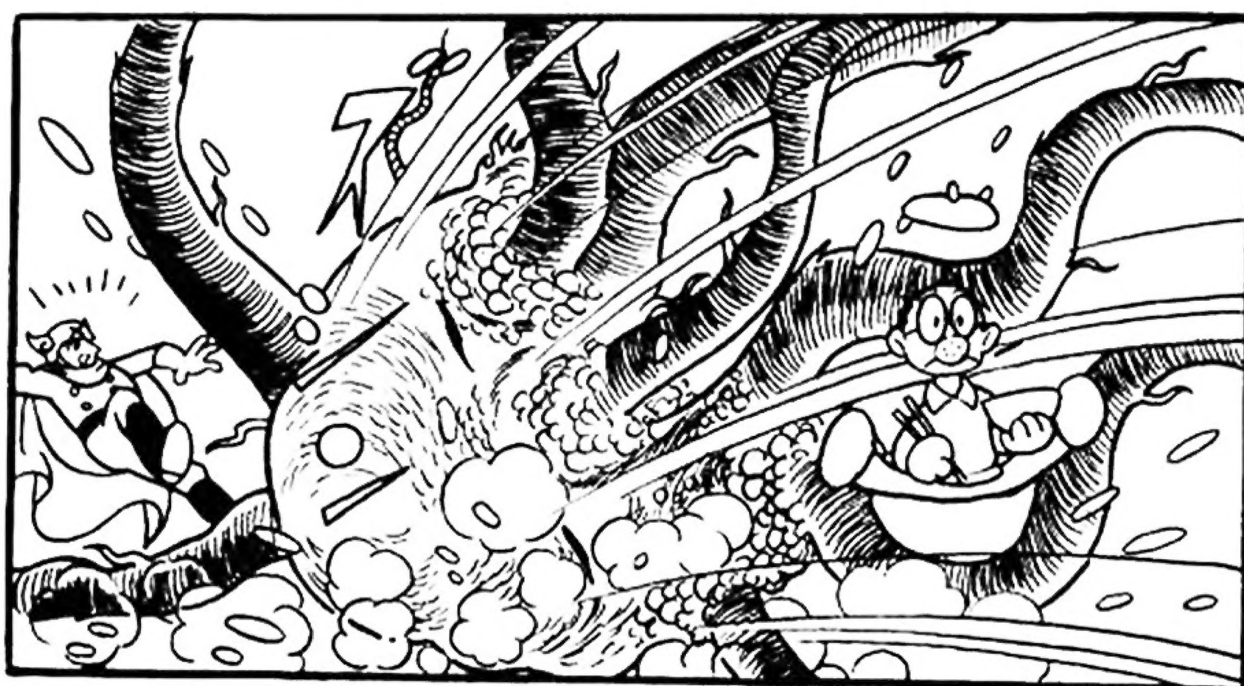

AH!
DON'T COME ANY CLOSER

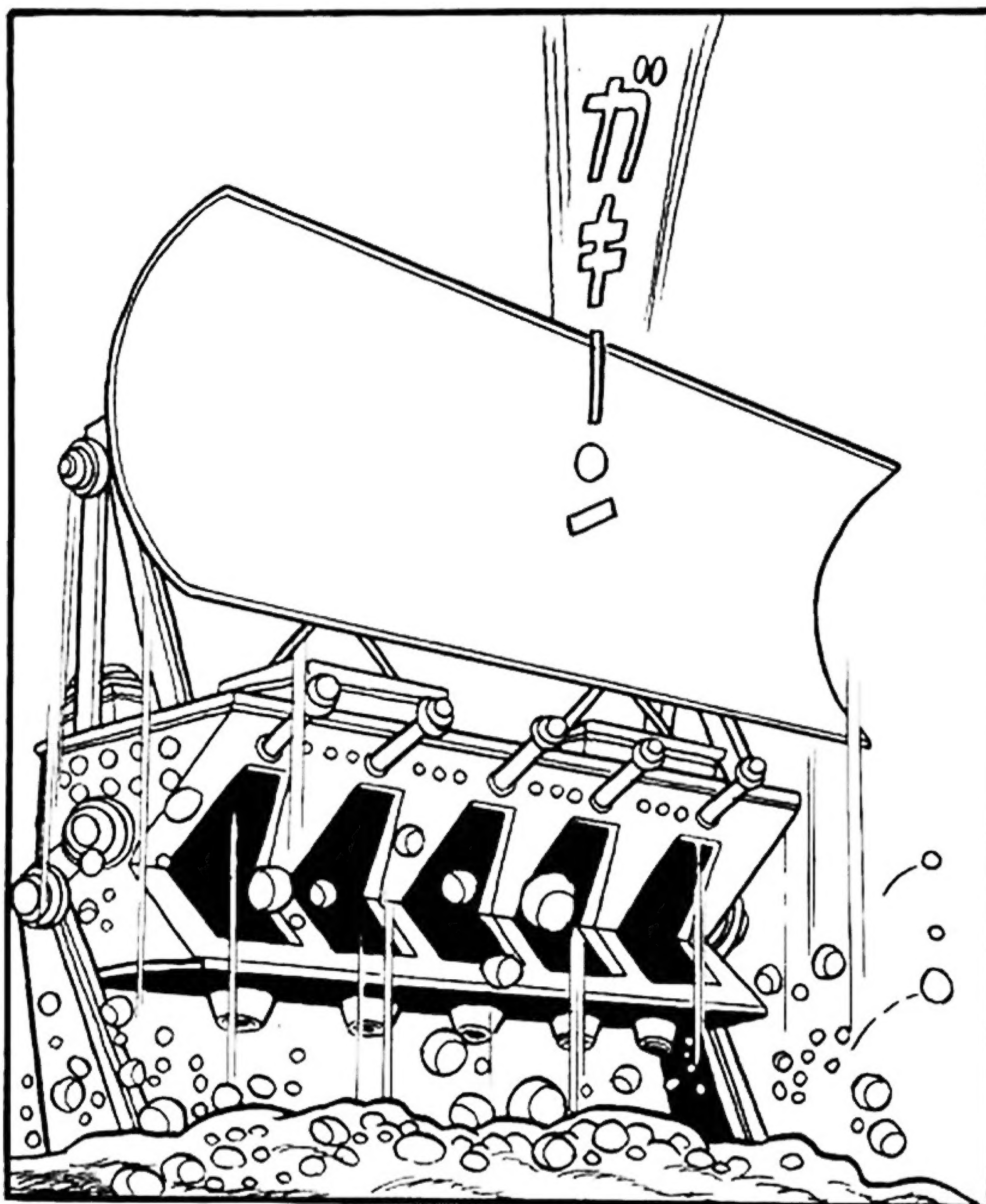
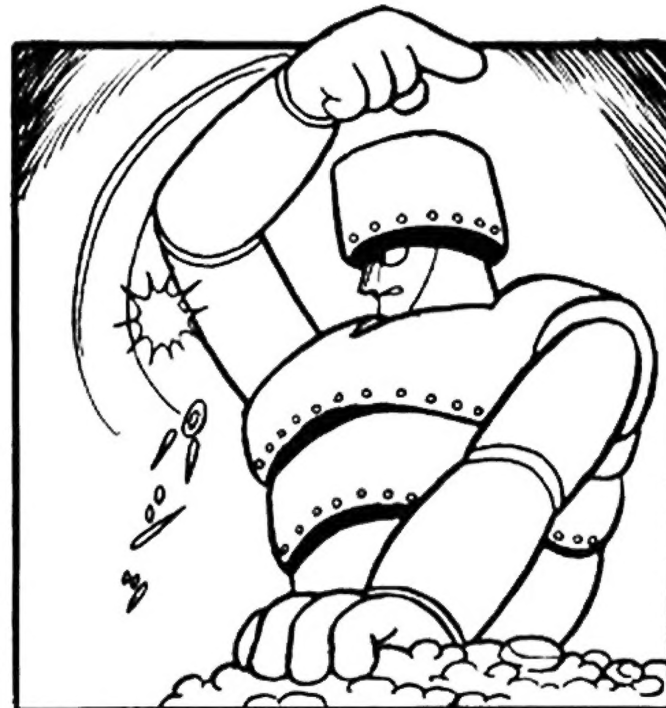
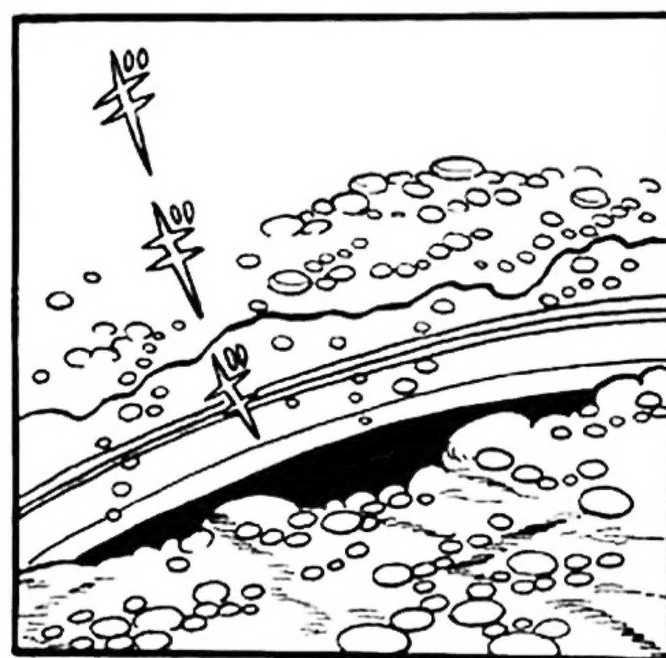
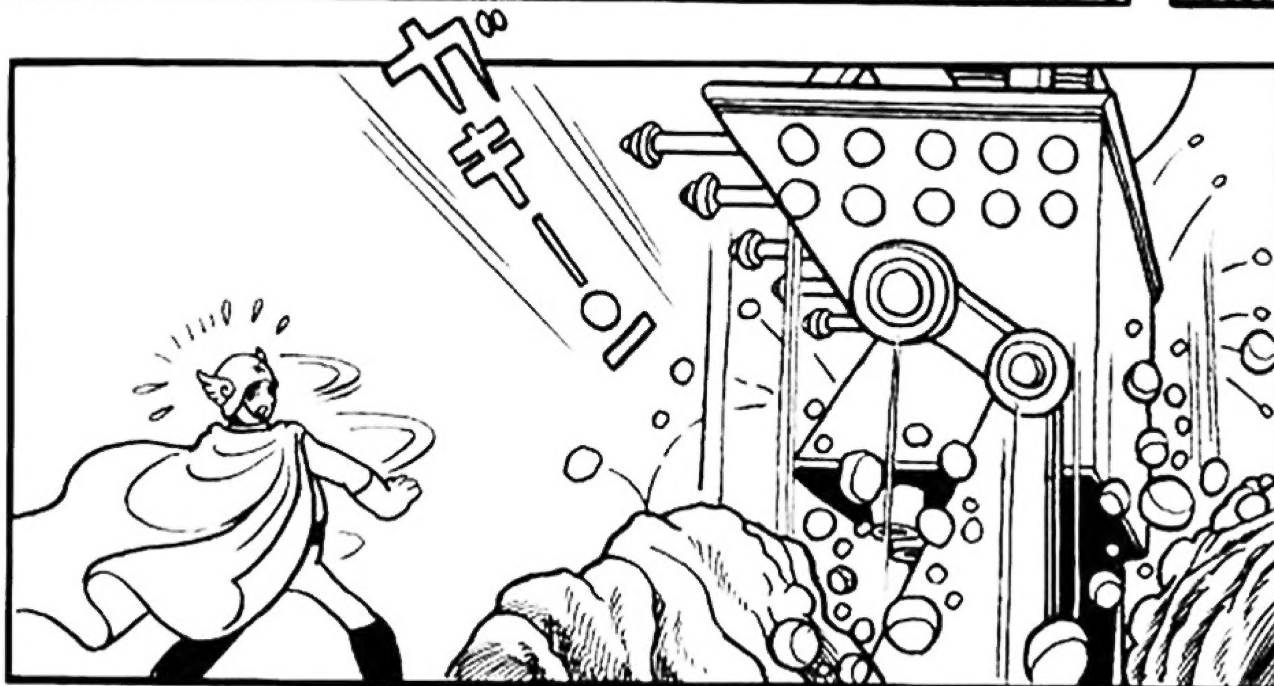

TAKE THAT!

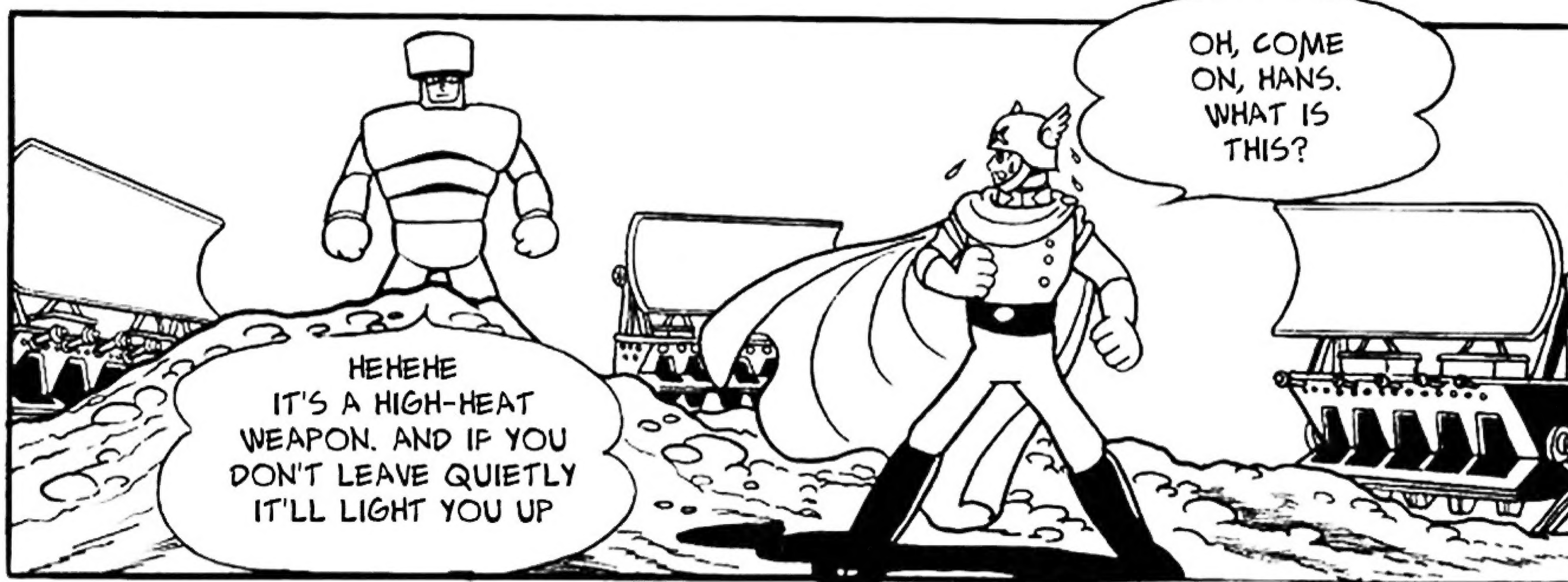

HANS! STOP IT!



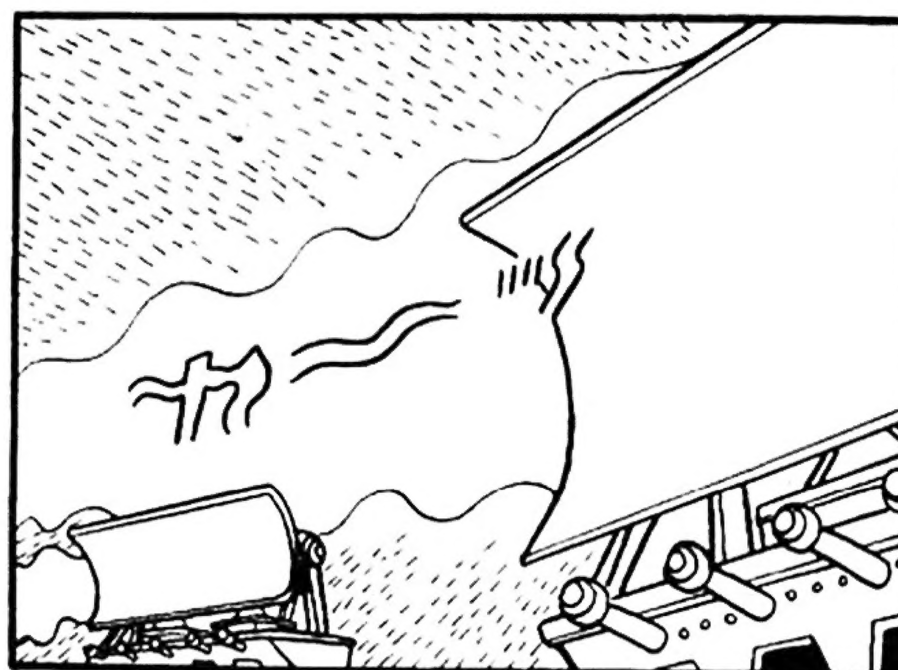

HANS, ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO DO THIS?



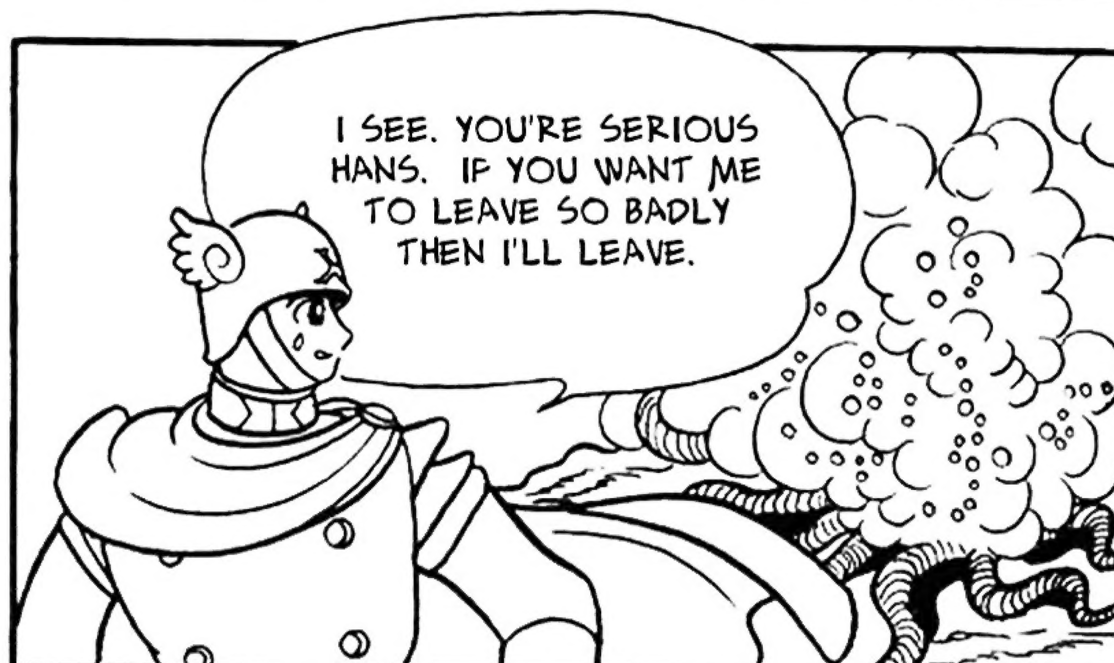





WH-WHAT?

OH, COME ON, HANS. WHAT IS THIS?
HEHEHE IT'S A HIGH-HEAT WEAPON. AND IF YOU DON'T LEAVE QUIETLY IT'LL LIGHT YOU UP






I WANTED TO BELIEVE IN YOU, BUT....
NOW WE ARE ENEMIES. SO BE CAREFUL


I SEE. YOU'RE SERIOUS HANS. IF YOU WANT ME TO LEAVE SO BADLY THEN I'LL LEAVE.

〔ビッグX ③〕 完

